

Tunisia proposes Arab peace mission

TUNIS (R) — President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia proposed Tuesday that an Arab political and military mission be sent to northern Lebanon to arrange a ceasefire between warring Palestinian factions. The Tunisian news agency TAP said President Bourguiba had urged Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi to contact Arab heads of state urgently to try and halt hostilities between Yasser Arafat loyalists and Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels. TAP said if Arab leaders agreed to Mr. Bourguiba's proposal the ceasefire mission should be put in place pending a meeting of Arab foreign ministers who would make ready for a summit of Arab heads of state. Mr. Bourguiba's proposal was in response to a request from Mr. Klibi for suggestions on how to save Tripoli, the north Lebanon city where the fighting between the rival Palestinians is taking place.

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جوردان تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة
المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Rumsfeld ends Mideast trip

RABAT (R) — Donald Rumsfeld, President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, left for Washington Tuesday at the end of a tour of Middle Eastern and European capitals. Mr. Rumsfeld arrived Monday from Beirut where he had talks with President Amin Gemayel. During his brief stay in Rabat he was received by King Hassan. The purpose of his tour was to obtain the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon. U.S. sources said. Officials here gave no details of his talks with the king. Mr. Rumsfeld, who replaced Robert McFarlane as the special U.S. envoy to the Middle East, also visited Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Syria during the just concluded trip. The first he made after assuming the new post.

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King cables good wishes to Gemayel

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday sent a cable of good wishes to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel congratulating him on the occasion of Lebanon's independence day. In his cable, King Hussein expressed faith that the "noble Lebanese people under their wise leadership and with the help of God will restore security and stability, preserve its independence and territorial integrity that should be safeguarded with all its manifestations," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. "These are basic requirements for the Lebanese people to rebuild their homeland and restore its leading role in the Arab World," the cable added, according to Petra.

Kittani leaves Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz left Amman late Monday night on his way to the Yemen Arab Republic. Mr. Kittani, who arrived in Amman Monday, conveyed a verbal message from Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz to Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem on recent developments in the Arab and international arena, and Iraq's position towards them.

Fire bombs hurled at Israeli building

TEL AVIV (R) — Palestinians hurled four fire bombs at an Israeli military government building in the West Bank town of Tulkarem overnight but caused no injuries or serious damage, Israeli officials said. Israeli authorities imposed a curfew on an adjoining Palestinian refugee camp for several hours to search for the attackers, the army said.

Greek ship sunk

ATHENS (R) — Iraqi warplanes hit and sank a Greek merchant ship in a rocket attack Monday on shipping in the Gulf but all 19 crew members were safe, its owners said Tuesday. Iraq said Monday its air force had destroyed seven "enemy" ships sailing from Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal.

Junblatt ends visit to Algeria

PARIS (R) — Wafiq Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, left Algeria Tuesday after a brief visit during which he conferred with President Chadli Benjedid, the Algerian news agency APS received in Paris said. Mr. Junblatt also met leaders of the Algerian ruling National Liberation Front to discuss the situation in Lebanon. The agency did not say where he was going.

Assad meets aides

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, who reportedly underwent appendix surgery this month, received senior ministers and a military chief Tuesday for discussions on the Middle East and other topics, state-run Damascus Radio said. The radio did not say where the meeting took place.

Tripoli battle subdued after de facto ceasefire

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Rival Palestinian factions observed a de facto ceasefire Tuesday while diplomats and politicians struggled to patch together a more permanent peace.

This northern port was mostly tranquil, a marked change from what one resident called the "hell" of heavy artillery and rocket barrages over the past several days. Civilians walked through the streets, some queuing at petrol stations and others left the city with their bedding.

Syrian-aided opponents of Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), are on the outskirts of Tripoli after taking the two refugee camps north of here. On Monday, the rebels penetrated to about one kilometre from Mr. Arafat's headquarters in the Zahriyeh district, according to Tripoli police sources and Mr. Arafat's top military aide, Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad).

Abu Jihad told reporters that Palestinians and Syrians tried to advance with tanks and infantry units early Tuesday on loyalist positions at Mallouleh, northeast of the muddy Abu Ali River. Police sources said no territory changed hands Tuesday. Sporadic sniping continued, however, and a

three-year-old girl and her grandmother were wounded as they walked in the streets.

Dissidents in Damascus announced a unilateral ceasefire Monday afternoon, but the city was bombarded during the evening.

Abu Jihad said no one officially told him of a ceasefire, though he said his men were not shooting. He said the Syrians and Palestinian rebels were reinforcing their positions and he expected a new assault.

But new efforts were being made to prevent further strife. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal and a separate four-man mediation committee from the Non-Aligned Movement flew to Damascus for talks with Syrian leaders on the fighting.

A delegation from the Sunni Muslim spiritual leadership, led by former Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss, went to Tripoli Tuesday to meet Mr. Arafat while other Sunni leaders went to Damascus.

The police sources said the negotiators were setting their sights low, not trying "to resolve the sit-

uation, but to keep the ceasefire."

Abu Jihad said the loyalist leaders were discussing "all things" with the leaders of Tripoli, including a possible Arafat withdrawal.

Most of Tripoli's leaders have called on Mr. Arafat to pull out of Tripoli, though he retains the support of the city's most powerful militia, a Sunni fundamentalist group called the Islamic Unification Movement.

Arafat spokesman Ahmad Abdulrahman said the movement had decided to fight for Mr. Arafat's right to stay in Tripoli. He repeated Mr. Arafat's decision not to leave if such groups ask him to stay.

He warned that if Mr. Arafat's opponents tried to advance into Tripoli, there would be a long battle. "If it begins, the battle for Tripoli will not stop," he said. "It means that all parties will lose control of their forces."

Though Mr. Arafat's men have lost so far in the battle north of here, Abu Jihad said their situation was not desperate. He said they would be able to defend their positions in street fighting with the aid of the Sunni militiamen.

"They haven't come to the jungle of cement yet," he said. "We still have our will. We will not yield. We will not say to the Syrians, 'come and control the PLO.'"

Kaddoumi arrives in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — A senior aide of beleaguered Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat arrived in Moscow Tuesday for talks with Soviet leaders, the official news agency TASS reported.

It said Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), was on a brief visit but gave no further details. Informed Arab sources said Mr. Kaddoumi had been invited by the Kremlin to counterbalance a visit here two weeks ago by Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam.

Simultaneously, two representatives of two PLO groups also trying to end the fighting flew to Moscow from Damascus, Palestinian sources said in the Syrian capital.

All three were expected to ask the Soviet Union to help stop the clashes in Tripoli, north Lebanon, where Syrian-backed rebel guerrillas are besieging the PLO leader.

The Palestinians who flew from Damascus were Ahmad Yamani of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Yasser Abed Rabbo of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

According to Arab diplomats, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko strongly criticised Syria's attitude at his talks with Mr. Khaddam.

Mr. Gromyko urged Syria to stop backing the rebels and use its influence to bring about a peaceful solution but met a blank refusal from Mr. Khaddam, they said.

The Soviet Union has remained neutral over the current fighting

Syria highlights Soviet ambassador's statement

Meanwhile in Damascus, Syria's state-controlled newspapers Tuesday frontpaged a statement by Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Youkhine of "excellent relations" and "identical views" between the two countries.

Mr. Youkhine made the statement Monday at a meeting with the speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly (parliament), Mahmoud Al Zo'ubi.

The media treatment reflected Syria's desire to highlight Soviet-Syrian co-operation after Mr. Khaddam's visit to Moscow. In an apparent reference to Western press reports that Mr. Khaddam received a rap over the knuckles from the Kremlin, Mr. Youkhine denounced "groundless lies" broadcast by "hostile mass media."

Non-aligned team in Syria for efforts to end fighting

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — A four-man mediation committee from the Non-Aligned Movement arrived here Tuesday in a fresh effort to end inter-Palestinian strife in north Lebanon where Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat is besieged by Syrian-backed rebels.

The team, which arrived from Kuwait, includes Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmeria, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Lazar Mojsov and the head of Senegal's U.N. diplomatic mission.

The four envoys were expected to meet Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam later Tuesday for talks on ways to resolve Palestinian disputes. They are also expected to have similar talks with Palestinian leaders.

In Kuwait, the committee met Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Meanwhile, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal also flew here Tuesday to follow up efforts by the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) to stop Palestinian fighting in north Lebanon.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, both strong supporters of the Palestinians, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Emirates and Oman.

Israel reimposes permit system to cross Awali

DBAIYE, Lebanon (R) — Israel reimposed tight security at the Awali Bridge into South Lebanon Tuesday after receiving intelligence reports of plans to drive in cars packed with explosives, Israeli officials said.

They said that until further notice Israeli troops at the bridge would revert to the permit system imposed after a suicide commando drove a van-bomb into an Israeli security headquarters in the southern port of Tyre on Nov. 14.

The explosion killed 61 people, including 29 Israelis and many Lebanese and Palestinians under detention in the building.

Traffic moved across the bridge freely in both directions Monday for the first time since the bomb attack, but on Tuesday people wishing to drive private cars south would again need special passes, the officials said.

"We had information that cars full of explosives were planning to go down there," said Bruce Kashdan, an Israeli Foreign Ministry official at their liaison bureau in Lebanon.

Informed sources said Prince Faisal might also brief Syrian officials on talks in Riyadh over the weekend with King Fahd and Lebanese President Amin Gemayel.

Saudi Arabia has played a key mediating role between the Lebanese government and Syria, and was instrumental in arranging a fragile ceasefire between pro-government forces in Lebanon and Syrian-backed militias two months ago.

Mr. Arafat has repeatedly accused Syria of backing the rebels in his Fatah movement, the biggest faction under the PLO umbrella. Damascus denies the charges.

In June, Syria expelled the PLO chairman after he publicly accused the Syrians of supporting the dissidents and encouraging them to attack loyalists based in north Lebanon.

On Tuesday, a fragile ceasefire was holding in the north Lebanese port city of Tripoli where Mr. Arafat is besieged by the rebels after the loyalists were forced to withdraw from their last strongholds in north Lebanon, Nahr Al Bared and Baddawi refugee camps.

Baddawi, the rebels say, is completely under their control but Mr. Arafat said Sunday the loyalists still occupy part of it. Nahr Al Bared fell to the rebels 10 days earlier.

Saudi leader lambasts Palestinian dissidents

KUWAIT (R) — Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz launched a scathing attack on Palestinian rebels in an interview published here Tuesday, accusing them of treason and depravity by attacking women, children and old men.

It was the strongest statement on the inter-Palestinian fighting in north Lebanon so far by the influential Saudis, who provide most of the financial support for Palestinian guerrillas, and suggested they may be taking a stronger stance over the fighting, Western diplomats said.

In the interview with the Kuwaiti news agency (KUNA), the crown prince, first deputy prime minister and Saudi number two behind King Fahd, avoided mentioning any names.

But he left no doubt his vehement criticism was aimed at the Syrian-backed rebels besieging Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat in the Lebanese port of Tripoli.

"In control one refugee camp or two, or even more, does not legitimise illegitimate acts," KUNA quoted him as saying.

"Our Arab and Muslim Nation has not made all these sacrifices for a colonel or a brigadier to stage a coup against the authority entrusted with the Palestinian cause, represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," he said.

The rebel movement, led by Colonel Sa'ed Musa (Abu Musa) of Mr. Arafat's mainstream Fatah guerrilla group, has been widely seen as a coup attempt against Mr. Arafat since the rebels are demanding that he give way to a collective leadership of the group.

Bonn missile debate nears end; protesters not visible

BONN (R) — West Germany's two-day debate on NATO's nuclear strategy neared its end Tuesday with no repetition of Monday's angry protests in the streets but with deep divisions in parliament.

The centre-right coalition government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl is assured of a majority for deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles on West German soil.

But after almost 20 hours of debate the consensus that Bonn has long been accustomed to expect on key NATO policy issues was clearly dead and the vast majority of opposition Social Democrats (SPD) remained determined to vote "no".

"What good will a couple of more weapons do the (NATO) alliance when it risks hearts and minds," former SPD Chancellor Willy Brandt demanded.

Mr. Brandt caused uproar when he called Helmut Kohl's party a "general secretary" of the government's hired slanders.

Anti-Nuclear demonstrators, perhaps deterred by Monday's liberal use of police of water-cannon, were conspicuous Tuesday by their small numbers.

Soviets, U.S. to continue talks on strategic missiles

GENEVA (R) — Soviet and U.S. negotiators met for one hour Tuesday at a regular session of talks on limiting inter-continental strategic missiles, and will meet again next Tuesday, a U.S. spokesman said.

The Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) are held in parallel with U.S.-Soviet negotiations here on limiting medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

Tuesday's meeting was shorter than recent START sessions, which usually last more than two hours.

But U.S. sources said the negotiators continued discussions at a working lunch, and that there was no political significance in the comparative brevity of the formal meeting.

There have been suggestions that Moscow may break off the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) talks at a scheduled session Wednesday, following a crucial vote Tuesday night in the Bonn parliament which is expected to approve the deployment of a new generation of U.S. missiles in West Germany.

It is not clear whether a Soviet walkout from the INF talks would mean a suspension of the START talks, but there is a possibility that the two sets of negotiations may be combined.

Seven killed in Soviet Georgia hijack attempt

MOSCOW (R) — Seven people were killed in a gun battle on a Soviet plane last Friday after eight young hijackers, including three women, tried to force it to fly to Turkey, informed Soviet sources said Tuesday.

They said the group, which came aboard in a wedding party, evaded strict security to commandeer the plane after it took off from Tbilisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia, on an internal flight to the Black Sea port of Batumi.

Officials at Tbilisi airport control tower confirmed to Western reporters details of the incident. The 14th reported hijacking in the Soviet Union since 1970.

The sources, contacted in Tbilisi, said three crew members and three passengers were killed in the shooting, which broke out after the pilots fooled the hijackers about their route and landed again at Tbilisi.

One hijacker who died is believed to have shot himself, the sources said.

They added that Georgian television announced the incident last weekend but said only that a "number of people" had died.

The sources quoted eye-

witnesses who watched the plane taxi to a halt and then saw airport guards storm the craft. In the gun fight the chief pilot, flight mechanic and a stewardess died along with three passengers.

The sources said the five men and three women hijackers included sons and daughters of prominent Georgian officials and cultural figures.

They boarded the plane with the bride and groom after a wedding party in Tbilisi. It was not clear if the newly-weds, now in detention, were among the hijackers, the sources added.

They said an investigation had been launched into how the group managed to smuggle weapons through the strict security controls in force at all internal airports.

Soviet passengers usually have to pass through a metal-detecting archway similar to those at Western airports. Luggage is often searched by hand or screened by X-ray cameras.

But hijackers have evaded security and attempted, sometimes successfully, to commandeer Soviet airliners to the West, usually to Turkey or Scandinavia because they are close to Soviet territory.

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Regret to announce that, due to unavoidable circumstances, the cocktail party at the Amra Hotel this evening to welcome Capt. Milan Mahnic and Capt. Mohamed Osman, of Sudan Shipping Line, is cancelled.

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MIDDLE EAST

Hernu reassures France air raid was successful

PARIS (R) — French Defence Minister Charles Hernu has shown photographs on television of a raid by French warplanes against Shi'ite militia camp in eastern Lebanon and said the attack had succeeded in inflicting selective damage to "terrorists".

The move Monday contrasted with a cautious attitude adopted by officials who even declined initially to identify the target of last week's strike. This attitude and conflicting reports from the Middle East had led commentators to express serious doubts over the weekend about the outcome of the operation.

Four days after Thursday's air raid, Mr. Hernu's intervention on both TV channels appeared aimed at dispelling these doubts.

In a programme recorded Monday for television only, Mr. Hernu produced two aerial pictures of "Sheikh Abdallah's camp", east of Baalbek which, he said, showed that all 250-kg and 400-kg bombs dropped by the French Super-

Etendard fighter-bombers had fallen into the camp.

Eyewitnesses were reported as saying some bomb craters could be seen outside the camp and that militiamen prevented them from having a look inside.

The minister said that nearby houses had been spared by the French bombs and that the whole exercise had been carried out with "extreme accuracy". Hinting that the bombs had only caused partial damage to the camp, he said the raid was not meant to destroy the whole camp.

The defence ministry's initial announcement of the raid said it had been staged as a pre-emptive measure to prevent further attacks on the French multinational force.

'Morocco sets condition for recognition of Israel'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — An Israeli left-wing parliamentarian, who recently visited Morocco, said King Hassan was ready to recognise Israel if Israel accepted the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

Charles Biton, a member of the new Communist Party, told rep-

orters he visited Morocco earlier this month and had a meeting with King Hassan.

"The king told me Morocco would recognise Israel if Israel recognised Palestinian rights, including their right to self-determination and a Palestinian state," Mr. Biton said.

Later Turkish Foreign Minister Turgut Ersoy told reporters he was encouraged by his meetings with Mr. Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz. He expressed appreciation for the U.S. opposition to the Turkish-Cypriot declaration.

Until now, Soviet reports have never made clear that Mr. Ararat, well known to the Soviet public after several visits to Moscow, was in serious danger of defeat by his opponents.

State TV said the continued fighting was causing great harm to the interests of the Palestinian people and declared that most Arab states wanted to see an end to it.

Organisation (PLO) was losing out to his opponents.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said on Saturday that the Kremlin was taking "vigorous steps" to try to end the schism within the PLO.

It gave no details but Arab diplomats say Moscow has been putting strong pressure on Syria to end its backing for the PLO rebels.

The TV news commentary included film clips of the fighting in Tripoli and said artillery and other heavy weapons were being used in a densely built-up area.

Reporting Mr. Ararat's set-

Reagan urges for Cypriot talks

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has appealed to Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou not to allow the Turkish-Cypriot declaration of an independent state to stand in the way of efforts to settle the decade-long dispute on the island.

Mr. Reagan's appeal Monday, as relayed to reporters by spokesman Larry Speakes, did not repeat the U.S. demand that last week's declaration be reversed.

Officials said the United States had not abandoned hope of a reversal but that resumption of talks between the Greek and Turkish communities offered the best hopes for a Cyprus settlement.

Reporting on the Reagan-Kyprianou talks, Mr. Speakes said: "In recognising that the situation is complex, the president asked that the government of Cyprus not let this ill-considered unilateral act preclude consideration of any opportunities that may emerge for progress towards a settlement."

Greece has asked the United States to use its influence on Turkey to recognise the new "state". But U.S. officials, while expressing regret, make it clear they opposed an arms embargo such as Congress imposed against Turkey following its invasion of northern Cyprus in 1974.

Mr. Kyprianou told reporters he was encouraged by his meetings with Mr. Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz. He expressed appreciation for the U.S. opposition to the Turkish-Cypriot declaration.

Later Turkish Foreign Minister Turgut Ersoy told reporters the declaration was "not the final step."

"It was presented as an interim



Ronald Reagan

step and it was clearly stated that the aim is to continue the intercommunal negotiations for an eventual peaceful and lasting settlement on the island," he said after talks with Mr. Shultz.

He said Turkey had no intention of reversing its decision to recognise the new northern Cyprus "state" which has failed to win acceptance in virtually all the world's capitals.

Despite the flurry of Reagan administration activity on the Cyprus dispute, officials said the United States was not taking the lead in seeking a settlement.

Instead, it is supporting the efforts of U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Meanwhile, Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash told President Reagan Monday that any hope of a negotiated Cyprus settlement would be set back 21 years if he recognised the Greek Cypriot-led administration as the only government of Cyprus.

In a letter to Mr. Reagan, he said the Cyprus problem would be

solved only when the principle of re-establishing a partnership state on the Mediterranean island had been accepted.

Mr. Denkash said: "I hope that with the advice of the State Department a statement to the effect that the U.S. recognises only one government in Cyprus, and that government is the government of Mr. Kyprianou, will not be forthcoming, because if it does, then the possibility of settling the Cyprus problem through negotiations between the two peoples of Cyprus will be destroyed for another 20 years."

The Turkish-Cypriot leader told Mr. Reagan: "The policy of the State Department to recognise one wing of a bi-communal state as its legitimate government has not been helpful in solving the problem for 21 years."

He continued: "Mr. president, please do not misunderstand my pointing a finger at the State Department. I am not doing this out of discourtesy or anger."

U.S. recognition back to 1964, when he said a reference to "the government of Cyprus" was inserted into a Security Council resolution despatching a United Nations force to the island to try to keep peace between the two communities.

Although he protested at the time, Mr. Denkash said, the State Department convinced the government of Turkey that time should not be wasted on semantics when blood was flowing in Cyprus.

It also assured Ankara that the Security Council would interpret the resolution and that "the government of Cyprus" would be taken to mean the bi-communal government, he added.

Malaysia, Nigeria take pro-Greek stance as Turkish aide visits Kuwait

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysian Foreign Minister Tan Sri Mahazir Shafie has called on the international community to make efforts to rebuild trust and confidence between Turkish and Greek Cypriots.

Malaysia welcomed all efforts to bring the two parties for reconciliation in the spirit of a united Cyprus, he said, commenting on last week's declaration of an independent republic by Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash.

The national news agency Bernama quoted him as saying Malaysia did not favour any move leading to dismemberment of a sovereign nation.

Malaysia considered the good offices of the United Nations secretary general as the most appropriate forum for pursuing a settlement of the Cyprus problem, he added.

Nigeria too, has condemned the Turkish-Cypriot declaration of independence as "clearly illegal."

An official statement by President Shehu Shagari sch-

uled departure for the Commonwealth conference in New Delhi said: "Nigeria recognises only one Cyprus which is a member of the Commonwealth and appeals to the leaders of the two Cypriot communities to resume talks aimed at securing a final solution to preserve the integrity of the republic."

It said the declaration "is clearly illegal and one which will not augur well for the peaceful co-existence and eventual integration of the various communities in Cyprus."

Turkish Defence Minister Haluk Bayraktar will brief Kuwaiti officials Tuesday on the Cyprus situation, officials said.

Mr. Bayraktar is also carrying a message from President Kenan Evren to the Emir, Sheikh Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, dealing with the Cyprus issue, they added.

He arrived here from Saudi Arabia Monday night after delivering a similar message to King Fahd.

Bangladesh says Greek ties intact

DHAKA (R) — Military ruler Lt.-Gen. Hossain Mohammad Ershad held Tuesday that Greece had broken off diplomatic relations with Bangladesh because Dhaka had recognised the independence of northern Cyprus.

"Greece has not cut off diplomatic relations with us," Gen. Ershad told reporters before leaving for Delhi to attend the Commonwealth summit.

Officials here have denied Dhaka had recognised the state proclaimed by Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash, saying they were still considering the matter.

Greece said last week it was cutting off diplomatic ties with Bangladesh after reports that Dhaka had recognised the Turkish Cypriot state and would decide whether to restore ties with Bangladesh on the issue was clear.

Gen. Ershad said Bangladesh supported Mr. Denkash's proposal for a confederation of Greek and Turkish Cyprus, adding: "This will do immense good to Cyprus."

Numeiri blames Israel, Libya during U.S. talks

WASHINGTON (R) — Sudan President Jaafar Numeiri has called on Libya to end its aggression in Africa but blamed Israel for the turmoil in the Middle East and Lebanon.

Gen. Numeiri, on a two-day U.S. visit, surprised some officials with his condemnation of Israel.

Gen. Numeiri is one of the few Arab leaders to have voiced public support for President Reagan's Middle East peace initiative of Sept. 1, 1982.

In an exchange of statements Monday at the White House, Mr. Reagan, who has often expressed a firm U.S. commitment to Israel, said he and the Sudanese leader "find ourselves in basic agreement on the Middle East."

But Gen. Numeiri, responding to the president's remarks, said: "Israel remains the cause of the problem in the Middle East. We call on President Reagan to exert his utmost to stop Israel's expansionist policies."

Presidents Reagan and Numeiri agreed that Libya's policies in Africa were a threat and called for

withdrawal of its troops from Chad.

Gen. Numeiri also criticised what he called Ethiopia's "dangerous role" in the region, but he did not publicly mention Sudanese charges that Ethiopia was massing troops for a possible cross-border attack.

He said Libya and Ethiopia were executing policies "serving the interests of a superior power," an apparent reference to the Soviet Union.

Gen. Numeiri expressed concern over the increasing numbers of refugees from neighbouring countries, particularly Ethiopia, and called on the United States to continue to help with the problem.

The United States this year is providing the Sudan with \$30 million in economic aid and \$1 million in military aid, the largest assistance programme for any African nation.

Gen. Numeiri probably would raise the possibility of increased American aid during his visit, a U.S. official said.

Afghan general reported killed in rebel attack

ISLAMABAD (R) — An Afghan army Major General and about 11 Afghan or Soviet officials were killed last week when guerrillas shot down their helicopter south of Kabul, Western diplomats said here Tuesday.

Maj. Gen. Mohammad Abdul Azim, commander of the army's eighth division, was travelling south in a Soviet built Mi-8 escorted by four helicopter gunships when it was attacked, they quoted their embassies in Kabul as saying.

They said the sources of the helicopter, believed to have been carrying about 24 people, was brought down by heavy machine gun fire but two other sources claimed it was hit by a heat-seeking missile.

The diplomats said the attack took place last Monday or Tuesday 15 kilometres south of the Afghan capital.

Those on board included several high-ranking army officers, Soviet officials and agriculture ministry officials. They were flying south to visit the Arak copper mine in the nearby Logar Valley, they quoted the embassy reports as saying.

Mr. Azim, whose division is based near Kargy just northwest of Kabul, was buried on Wednesday in a funeral publicly announced by the state-controlled media, they said.

The diplomats said that shortly down the helicopter was the most spectacular of a series of intensified attacks in Kabul by the guerrillas opposed to the Soviet-backed government of President Babrak Karmal.

Peshawar-based guerrilla sources said the helicopter was on a routine flight to the copper mine.

The wrecked craft and bodies of the victims were quickly taken away, they said.

The sources added that Soviet forces shelled and strafed nearby villages in retaliation for the attack, killing several civilians and destroying over a dozen houses.

The diplomats said the attack came as the government media was trying to show it was in control of the capital.

Mr. Karmal, who took power in the wake of the December 1974 Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, has been speaking more often in public and a large convention of tribal and local leaders was held in Kabul last Wednesday and Thursday to display their support for the government.

But the diplomats said almost all of the 423 participants were government employees or pro-government figures already living in Kabul.

They said artillery, mortar, rocket and heavy machine gun fire rang out every night from Thursday to Sunday and a bomb exploded in a neighbourhood Communist Party office on Thursday night, killing three party members.

Other targets included the defence ministry, military posts on the outskirts of Kabul and a housing complex where many Afghan officials and Soviet and East Europeans live, they said.

They said there were also reports of an attack on the historic Bala Hissar fort, an important Soviet army compound.

They said residents driving near the defence and interior ministries as well as the city's main grain silo and bakery on the mornings after attacks saw military repair crews filling in craters on the roads.

Soviet TV condemns Fatah battles

MOSCOW (R) — A commentary on Soviet state television Monday night condemned the fighting between Palestinian forces in the Lebanese city of Tripoli.

The commentary said the civilian residents of Tripoli were the victims of a senseless war, which could help only Israel and the United States.

"This fratricidal conflict is killing entirely innocent people," it said.

The commentary was the sharpest so far from Moscow on the conflict and also told Soviets for the first time that Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation

Organisation (PLO), was losing out to his opponents.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said on Saturday that the Kremlin was taking "vigorous steps" to try to end the schism within the PLO.

It gave no details but Arab diplomats say Moscow has been putting strong pressure on Syria to end its backing for the PLO rebels.

The TV news commentary included film clips of the fighting in Tripoli and said artillery and other heavy weapons were being used in a densely built-up area.

Reporting Mr. Arafat's set-

Arab League chief tours Arab capitals

TUNIS (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi left Tunis for Algiers Tuesday on a tour of Arab capitals to try to halt inter-Palestinian fighting in Lebanon, a League spokesman said.

Dr. Klibi would discuss various Arab proposals for ending the fighting and the possibility of convening an urgent meeting of Arab foreign ministers to study the crisis as suggested by Saudi Arabia, the spokesman said.

One proposal put forward by Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba Monday was for the creation of an Arab military and political mission to supervise an eventual ceasefire in Lebanon, the Tunisian news agency TAP said.

Egyptian police said detain 35

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian security forces have detained 35 people on suspicion that they belong to an extremist group of Muslim fundamentalists, the authoritative Al-Ahram newspaper reported Monday night.

No immediate confirmation could be obtained from officials of the report in the early edition of Tuesday's issue of the newspaper.

It said the detainees were suspected of belonging to the "Takfir wal Hijra" (atonement and flight) movement. The prosecutor was investigating reports that they tried to reorganise the movement after earlier arrest that followed its 1977 killing of a minister.

Egyptians seize hashish worth \$60m

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian police have seized about 8.7 tonnes of hashish worth about \$60 million in the biggest drug haul in Egypt in 25 years, Interior Minister Hassan Abu Basha said Tuesday.

He told a news conference 11 smugglers, including a Yugoslav, a Moroccan and nine Egyptians, were caught near the Egyptian Mediterranean city of Port Said last Friday as they were trying to steer a privately-owned boat to the tiny port of El-Tor on the western coast of the Sinai Peninsula.

Mr. Abu Basha said seven other smugglers involved in the operation were still at large.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
MAIN CHANNEL	
17:30	Koran
17:40	Cartoons
18:05	Cartoons
18:30	That's Incredible
19:20	Programme Review
19:30	Programme on Agriculture
20:00	Arabic Series
20:30	Local Series
21:15	Arabic Series
22:15	Arabic Series
23:10	News in Arabic
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
18:00	French Programme
19:00	News in French
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Three's Company
21:00	Documentary: Raphael
22:00	News in English
23:15	Hill Street Blues
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM	on 4500 KHz, SW
07:00	Morning Show
07:30	News Bulletin
08:00	News Summary
08:30	Morning Show
09:00	News Summary
09:30	Pop Session
10:00	News Bulletin
10:30	News Summary
11:00	Pop Session
11:30	News Bulletin
12:00	News Summary
12:30	Animal, Vegetable, Mineral
13:00	Concert Hour
13:30	News Summary
14:00	Instrumentals, Old Favourites
14:30	News Summary
15:00	Over a Cup of Tea, Music
15:30	Classical Music
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Over a Cup of Tea, Music
17:00	News Summary
17:30	News Summary
18:00	Over a Cup of Tea, Music
18:30	Classical Music
19:00	News Summary
19:30	Evening Show
20:00	News Summary
20:30	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:30	Evening Show
22:00	News Summary
22:30	Evening Show
23:00	News Summary
23:30	Evening Show
BBC WORLD SERVICE	
630, 720, 1413 KHz	
06:00	Newsday 06:30
06:30	Worldwide 06:00

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
* Paintings by Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.	
* Photographs by Saher Al Farhat, at the Intercontinental Hotel.	
CONCERT	
* American pianist Mary Stanton performs at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.	
LECTURE	
* By Prof. Svend Holm-Nielsen speaks on "The Danish Excavation at Umm Qais (Gadara)" at the Goethe Institute at 8:00 p.m.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre, Tel: 6610-267	
American Centre, 4437	
American Centre library, 41520	
British Council, 3617-43	
French Cultural Centre, 3780R	
Goethe Institute, 41993	
Soviet Cultural Centre, 44203	
Spanish Cultural Centre, 23439	
Turkish Cultural Centre, 39777	
Haya Arts Centre, 665195	
Husseini Youth City, 667181	
Y.W.C.A., 41793	
Y.W.M.C.A., 664251	
Amman Municipal Library, 36111	
University of Jordan Library, 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 10th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel: 51761	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal gawl gawl (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
06:07	Fajr
06:12	(Sunrise) Shams
11:22	Dhuhr
14:14	'Asr
16:33	Maghrib
17:58	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
AMMAN AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alfa Info, information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel: (06) 33350, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
07:00	Cairo (EA)
07:15	Karachi (PA)
07:45	Beirut (RJ)
08:05	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
08:15	Muscat, Bahrain (KLM)
08:45	Cairo (EA)
08:55	Kuwait (KAC)
09:00	Bucharest (TOM)
09:10	Jeddah (Saudia)
09:30	Baghdad (IA)
09:45	Cairo (RJ)
10:00	Bangkok (PIA)
10:15	Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (IA)
10:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
10:45	Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
11:00	Beirut (MEA)
11:15	Madrid, Rome (RJ)
11:30	Cairo (EA)
11:45	Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH)
12:00	Zurich, Athens, Damascus (KAC)
12:15	Baghdad (RJ)
12:30	Cairo (EA)
DEPARTURES	
05:45	Larnaca, Frankfurt (LH)
06:00	Beirut (RJ)
06:15	Baghdad (RJ)
06:30	Cairo (EA)
06:45	Athens (TOM)
07:00	Jeddah (Saudia)
07:15	Beirut (MEA)
07:30	Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
07:45	Vienna, New York (RJ)
08:00	Kuwait (KAC)
08:15	Amsterdam (KLM)
08:30	London (RJ)
08:45	Cairo (RJ)
09:00	Cairo (EA)
09:15	Larnaca, Bucharest (TOM)
09:30	Baghdad (IA)
09:45	Jeddah (Saudia)
10:00	Baghdad (IA)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
EMERGENCIES	
Ambulance	193, 751

Badran receives Nayef

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Tuesday morning received in his office a visiting Canadian parliamentary delegation.

During the meeting, which was attended by Interior Minister Ahmad Obaidat and Saudi Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Al Sultan, the two sides discussed various aspects of Jordanian-Saudi relations.

Later in the afternoon Mr. Sultan gave a dinner in honour of Prince Nayef and Mr. Obaidat.

The dinner was attended by Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Tarawneh, National Consultative Council Speaker Suleiman Arar, Chief Chamberlain Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb, heads of diplomatic missions to Jordan, Security Forces senior officers and the accompanying Saudi delegation.

Tuesday evening Prince Nayef left here for home.

Canadian team briefed

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday morning received in his office a visiting Canadian parliamentary delegation.

Prince Hassan briefed the visiting team on recent developments in the Middle East situation in general, and on Israel's expansionist and settlement policies in the occupied Arab territories in particular.

The meeting was also attended by Canadian Ambassador to Jordan Keith Maclellan.

Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Tarawneh also received the Canadian team and briefed them on Jordan's stance towards a Middle East settlement that should be based on a total withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territories occupied in

1967, and recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Mr. Tarawneh also praised the good Arab-Canadian relations and the role played by the Canadian parliamentarians in promoting peace and understanding between the two nations.

On receiving the visiting team, National Consultative Council (NCC) Speaker Suleiman Arar stressed that all the problems the region presently witnesses, the Lebanese crisis included, originate in the continuation of the Palestinian problem.

Israel's increasing militarism, aided by continued U.S. assistance, is the core of trouble in the region, Mr. Arar told his Canadian guests.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. Maclellan.

Interview with Canadians below



Sheikh Ezzeddin

Tamimi promoted Mufti

AMMAN (J.T.) — Sheikh Ezzeddin Al Khaliq Al Tamimi has been appointed as Jordan's Mufti-General, the daily Arabic newspaper Sawt Al Shaab said Tuesday.

Mr. Tamimi, the paper said, has resigned his seat as a National Consultative Council member in preparation for assuming his new responsibility. Mr. Tamimi expressed pride in the one and a half years he has spent as an NCC member.

Malhas opens hospital

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas Tuesday inaugurated the Ma'ath Ibn Jabal hospital in the Jordan Valley town of North Shunah. In addition to 18 beds, the hospital includes an operating theatre, X-ray facilities, laboratories and an emergency

centre. A group of specialised doctors, general surgeons and nurses will operate the hospital.

Dr. Malhas also inaugurated a medical centre at Maushiah also in the Shunah district. The centre includes a mother-and-child care centre and specialised clinics.

Minister tours camps

MADABA (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim Tuesday conducted tour of the Madaba and Talbiyah refugee camps and enquired about the needs of their residents.

Mr. Ibrahim met the elders of the Madaba refugee camp who said the camp needed a youth centre, training centre to teach girls how to sew and an improvement in health services.

Mr. Ibrahim said his present tour of Palestinian refugee camps was begun upon the instructions of His Majesty King Hussein who asked him to explore the needs and problems camp residents face.

A special committee has been set up by the ministry to study camp residents' needs and to work out ways of satisfying them.

A technical committee has also been set up to study the organisational aspects of camp life in cooperation with the Madaba Municipality and the district governor.

Residents of the two camps expressed pride in the King's stance in support of Palestinian legitimacy and the Palestine Liberation Organisation leadership.



BRILLE WATCHES: His Highness Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid (left), honorary president of the Friendship Society for the Blind, was presented Tuesday morning with a number of men's and women's Braille watches for distribution to the needy blind in Jordan. The watches, donated by the American Zale Corporation in Dallas, Texas, were presented by the American ambassador in Amman, Mr. Richard N. Viets (right).

Fahrelnissa exhibition draws us to a higher plane

By Cemil Eren

AMMAN — "As my life played me a serenade, I danced around it like a gypsy."

This is the way Fahrelnissa Zaid begins the catalogue of the exhibition she opened in October 1969 at the Kalia Granoff Gallery in Paris.

Now, nearly 15 years later, we learn she has opened a grand retrospective exhibition of her works under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor at the new Royal Cultural Centre in Amman. The span of these works, from 1915 through until 1983, covers decades that witnessed the fall of great empires, the rise of totally new technologies, as well as personal tragedies for the artist and others. Despite these great events, all affecting her personally, she consoles us and draws others to a higher plane of existence.

"You must forget what you know, because what you know is what you have learned, but what you do not know is what you really are.... It is the cosmic vibration that is in us and we do not perceive." Thus she commences her exhibition in Amman in 1983.

It reminds me of the Nov. 26, 1981, the opening of the Turkish Painting Exhibition at the National Gallery in Amman. We were waiting. There was a hush. As I asked myself, will she recognise me, a warm voice called "You're Cemil", and she walked straight for me.

Fahrelnissa Zaid has a universal family, but in each location those coming from another wing of her world cannot but stand in admiration at the richness of the many worlds they had not seen before. Born in Istanbul in 1901, the daughter of Shaki Pasha, the eminent Turkish general, diplomat and historian, we think of her in Turkey both in the context of a remarkable family of leaders, intellectuals and artists, and also in the vanguard of the young artists and determined women who formed the bases of modern arts, and courageous individuality, that linked the Ottoman Empire with Republican Turkey.

She studied art at the Fine Arts Academy in Istanbul during the years of struggle for independence from the Western occupying forces, and then went to Paris in 1927 for further studies at the Academy Ranson. A daring declaration by any standards in those days. There, her special talents were discovered by Bissiere, who had a profound influence on her work. In 1934 she married His Highness Prince Zaid, and subsequently spent her time in Jordan, Berlin and Paris, dividing her time between painting and diplomatic duties.

Fahrelnissa Zaid put on a great

exhibition in 1964 at the Hittite Museum in Ankara. Nuri Iyem, another painter, and I went to help her. Our friendship started then. We all had pleasant chats over dinner in the evening. Fahrelnissa Zaid, her niece Fureya Korali, herself a remarkable ceramicist, Nuri Iyem and myself. Her personality, so full of life, so impressive, enveloped us all — to the extent that we could not leave her side. During the day when we were free we would go to the Hittite Museum and look at her paintings, each day from a new angle. She encouraged the exhibition guard to draw. He sketched in a school copybook with his pencil. Fahrelnissa Zaid would show them to us. "Look, look, beautiful, isn't it?"

The walls in her institute in Amman are covered with paintings, as are the tables and even the ceilings. Some of the paintings we had seen at the Hittite Museum in 1964 had been fixed to the ceiling. In the Royal Cultural Centre, where they have been transported, one stands surrounded by a wealth of artistic production.

Oratory to the unknown

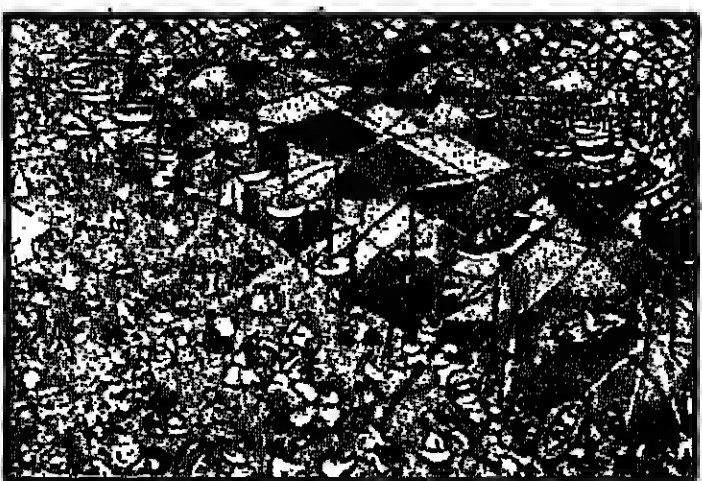
Fahrelnissa Zaid is like a magnetic storm. "As long as waves that come from endless evolution do not enfold us we can do nothing", she explains.

ART REVIEW

A large portrait of Princess Alia: the scale is larger than life. Her dress flows straight down without a wrinkle, the lines of a Byzantine figure. It is worked with shining points of colour, like a Byzantine mosaic. Such a shine has been given to the colours that you could say that they were Byzantine mosaics reflecting light from a thousand and one angles.

Like Byzantine mosaics, the figures are simple, unadorned, a body with no curves; like these figures they descend straight downwards but with thousands of colour reflections, brilliant colours and motifs that dazzle the eye. Fahrelnissa Zaid has painted the portrait of nearly all her students. When all are examined together one finds a style similar to the portrait of Princess Alia, all reminiscent of a Byzantine source. The hands, long, slender fingers held against the breast, arms opened to the side or lightly raised, the shape of the facial expression, the wide open eyes, the dark rings about the eyes, eyebrows arched like a bow. This great painter has in the most masterful and natural way produced this work and almost unconsciously has revived a rich source, bathing it in life once again.

Her own life began in a city where the monuments of Byzantium surround one — Istanbul — and now she lives in a city,



Loch Lomond, one of the pieces by Princess Fahrelnissa Zaid currently being exhibited here (File photo)

Amman, where once again Byzantine works are a source of figurative rejuvenation. In Amman, the greatest portraits she has produced bring the influence of the grand tradition of Byzantine portraiture before our eyes.

"Like a light"

At each gathering she shines out as a rare human being: a circle of people instantly forms about her. Her son, His Highness Prince Ra'ad Ibn Zaid, is always there, caring for her with his protective personality and his adoring affection. With each small word one senses his attention and love.

She has had exhibitions in all the great cities of the West, been friends with critics, writers and gallery owners and today produces with unabated perception and strength. And yet she has not yet been given in the West the place that she deserves.

Why? Because she is an artist of the East? Because she is a Muslim? Because she is a woman?

None of these questions prevent her from expanding her creative force. Andre Breton said the following in a letter he wrote her in 1955: "I always hide in the most secret recess of my soul the echo of your words, words born from your

fingers and sent forth like a light that emitted from a crystal surface has the power to light up all darknesses."

A remarkable synthesis

Fahrelnissa Zaid's portraits deserve particular attention. Their size is reminiscent of monumental statues. The portrait of Emir Zaid, an ellipsoidal face, a sunburned tan, eyebrows arched like a bow, almond-shaped, coffee-coloured eyes, with immense white and black lashes revealing the innermost secrets of his soul. His mouth, framed by a moustache in lines parallel to his eyebrows, is on the verge of opening. Emir Zaid appears to have found the secret of eternity.

Emir Hassan's clever and slightly prankish look and the green and blue tint of his square face stress his measured Arab intelligence and wise nature. Emir Ra'ad symbolises with his half profile and black eyes the love and affection that comes from the heat of the desert. In each of these three portraits is expressed the East, Eastern humanity and its philosophy.



Fahrelnissa Zaid put on a great

Humanitarian body issues communique after first meeting

Commission studies plight of 'disappeared'

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and His Highness Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan chaired the first plenary meeting of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues (ICHI) that convened in New York on November 11 - 13, 1983.

The commission, which is made up of 25 prominent world figures representing all the geographic areas of the world, released the following press communique at the end of its meetings:

The Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues assembled for its first plenary meeting in New York, November 11-13 to consider reports dealing with a range of humanitarian issues of global significance.

Essentially, the commission's task is to propose ways to reduce the suffering of millions of people arising from man-made and natural disasters. They also hope to examine to what extent the causes of that suffering might be removed.

In particular, the commission considered the escalation of armed conflict, not least in the developing world and the failure of many governments and warring factions to respect fundamental humanitarian norms of conduct. This failure is a principal concern of the commission, together with the protection of individuals who are victims of armed conflict.

Of particular value in this connection was the expert evidence of Alexander Hay, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Mr. Hay posed the following questions:

— How should one go about stimulating this awareness of humanitarian values among political leaders?

— How should one foster the humanitarian spirit in politics?

— How can one demonstrate that in every political situation there are humanitarian aspects which one ignores at one's peril?

During its deliberations, the commission also studied the problems of "disappeared persons" in Latin America and other parts of the world.

Statements were heard from the following:

— Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen, former vice-president of the Argentine senate and a former "disappeared person". He recently has been appointed to a senior position in the newly elected government of Argentina.

— Julio Cortazar, the well-known

Argentine author.

— Representatives of The Association of Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo in Argentina.

— Marta Casal de Gatti, an Uruguayan now living in Spain. Her husband and pregnant daughter disappeared and subsequently lost their lives. Her son-in-law disappeared in 1977 and is still missing.

The tragedy of the "disappeared" is far from resolution. As Sr. Cortazar testified before the commission, it is akin to "... a planetary cancer, whose malignant proliferation hardly diminishes in one zone only to reappear with virulence in another".

He also strongly supported the adoption of a declaration which would make "disappearances" a recognised international crime. "The countries which refuse to accept it would demonstrate in the most flagrant way their complicity with the worst criminals on earth — those who commit crimes against human rights, those who commit crimes against humanity", he said.

Sr. Solari Yrigoyen concluded his statement to the commission by affirming: "No strategic principle, no doctrine of national salvation, no theory approaching collective security can shipwreck the rights of the people ..."

In their statement to the commission, which particularly addressed itself to the question of "disappeared children", the Association of Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo said: "All the children should be restored to their real families — recover their identity — find their proper history and roots, and above all, know that they never were abandoned by their relatives ... we have to find them before they begin looking for us because this would constitute a new facet of the drama, one too painful even to contemplate."

Sra. Casal de Gatti concluded her statement by saying: "We, the relatives, do not seek vengeance, only justice. We are deeply hurt by this human problem. But have to grow beyond our own sorrow. Today, international opinion supports us in recognising that no amnesty can cover such crimes."

Also regarding the settlements in occupied territories, Mr. MacEachen made it clear that "there should not just be a freeze but an end to the settlement activities, these are almost the exact words of Mr. MacEachen." Senator Hicks said.

Senator Hicks pointed out that these are substantial modifications and hence indicate the sharp differences Canada has with the USA. "However, Canada has not come out definitely in favour of an independent Palestinian state but we have said in our view that it is a subject for negotiation."

Elaborating on Canada's role in the Middle East conflict Senator Hicks said that Canada cannot exert very much influence over the U.S. policy but "it can try to persuade the chief actors on the international stage to accept a reasonable solution or a compromise."

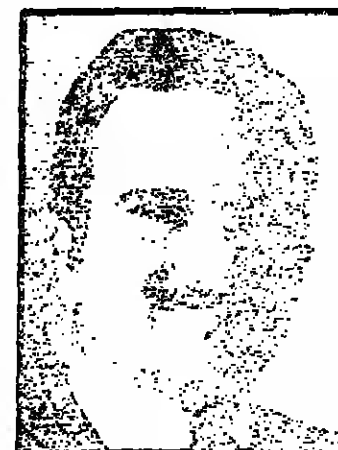
Referring to Jordan's role in the Arab-Israeli conflict, we are encouraged by the desire of the countries we have visited to come to some lasting peaceful solution.

In a reply to the role perceived for Canada in Middle East peace efforts, Senator Hicks said that Canada is not a great power but does support in general terms "our great neighbour to the South — USA."

However, he pointed out that the two countries sometimes have sharp differences of opinion and even on the subject of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Substantiating his statement, Senator Hicks said that the Deputy Prime Minister, Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen, modifying the Reagan initiative of Sept. 1, 1982, did not exclude the possibility of an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank.

Asked of the delegation's impression of the Middle East conflict, Senator Hicks said: "Obviously one has to be concerned



This is a way of preventing forever the massacre of helpless beings."

The commission noted that the United Nations Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances has received reports of "disappeared persons" in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Cyprus, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guinea, Indonesia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Zaire.

The commission recorded its unanimous concern at this gross abuse of human rights and condemned the practice unequivocally. It commended the efforts of voluntary agencies in bringing such poignant issues to the attention of the world.

Evidence also was heard on the scale and effect of natural disasters from M'Hamed Essafi, U.N. under secretary-general and U.N. coordinator for Disaster Relief (UNDRO). Anders Wilkman, secretary-general of the Swedish Red Cross, and Jean-Pierre Hocke, operations director of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The commission also heard a statement from Ambassador Munoz-Ledo of Mexico who spoke on behalf of the Group of 77 of which he is the current chairman.

In concluding its session, the commission agreed to set up a series of working groups, chaired by individual commissioners, to report on subjects of concern to the commission. These include statelessness, humanitarian norms in times of armed conflict, including the protection of innocent victims, the expanding deserts and desertification.

The Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues expects to issue a series of

reports from these working groups starting in 1984.

The other 22 members of the commission are as follows:

Prince Faisal Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia; Cardinal Paulo Evaristo, Archbishop of Sao Paulo from Brazil; Mohammed Bedoui, judge at the International Court of Justice in Algeria; Henrik Reen, secretary-general emeritus League of Red Cross Societies of Sweden; Luis Echaverria Alvarez, former president and director-general at the Centre for Economic and Social Studies of the Third World in Mexico City; Pierre Combar, former president of the confederation from Switzerland; Ivan Head, president of the International Research Centre at Canada; Liza Shoulay Hussein, president of the International Planned Parenthood Federation from Egypt; Manfred Lachs, professor of international law and judge at the International Court of Justice from Poland; Adam Malik, president of the 24th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and former vice-president of the Republic of Indonesia; Robert A. Gurnea, former secretary of state for defense and former president of the World Bank from the U.S.; Lazar Mojsov, president of the 32nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and Federal secretary for foreign affairs from Yugoslavia; Adam Malik, the prime-minister of Tunisia; Sadika Ogawa, professor at the Institute of International Relations for and Peace Studies on Peace and Development in Asia from Japan; David Green M.P., the former secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth Affairs from the United Kingdom; Wilfrid Pahr, former federal minister for foreign affairs from Austria; Shridath Surendranath Kamphal, Commonwealth secretary-general from Guyana; Salim A. Salim, president of the 34th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and minister for foreign affairs from Tanzania; Leopold Sedar Senghor, former president of the Republic of Senegal; Boedjatnoko, rector of the U.N. University; Simone Veil, former president of the European Parliament and former minister of health from France; Gough Whitlam, former prime minister and minister of foreign affairs from Australia and Mohammad Hidayatullah, the vice-president of India.

'Palestinian homeland is key issue for peace'

By Affiah A. Kaloti

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A just and lasting peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict should be based on the Palestinians' right to their homeland "in some way or another, either on their own or in association with Jordan," the head of the Canadian Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs Henry D. Hicks said Tuesday.

The head of the Canadian delegation who arrived in Jordan Sunday, as part of a Middle Eastern tour, also said that the just and durable solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict also requires the assurance to Israel that they will be recognised and be secure within "whatever boundaries are agreed upon in the area."

About the aim of the delegation's tour to the Middle Eastern countries which started on Nov. 11 and included Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Jordan, Senator Hicks said that the Canadian senate does not determine their government's policy but "we are here to learn and to observe we will make a report which may or may not have some influence on the policy of Canada's government towards the Arab cause."

Asked of the delegation's impression of the Middle East conflict, Senator Hicks said: "Obviously one has to be concerned

about the possible consequences of the Arab-Israeli conflict. We are encouraged by the desire of the countries we have visited to come to some lasting peaceful solution."

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Elaborating on Canada's role in the Middle East conflict Senator Hicks said that Canada cannot exert very much influence over the U.S. policy but "it can try to persuade the chief actors on the international stage to accept a reasonable solution or a compromise."

Referring to Jordan's role in the Arab-Israeli conflict, we are encouraged by the desire of the countries we have visited to come to some lasting peaceful solution.

peace efforts. Senator Hicks said that Jordan is a very civilised and well informed country, and described the Jordanian attitude as "very reasonable" towards Middle East peace efforts.

Senator Hicks said that Canada advocates "the coming together" of the concerned and the interested parties, because Canada is "against armed conflict, confrontation and disagreement."

Referring to Canada's relationship with Israel, Senator Hicks said that the two countries have been friends for three decades but "that does not mean, however, that we agree on everything Israel does."

He pointed out that Canada disagrees with Israel's invasion of South Lebanon, Israeli annexation of the West Bank and the Golan Heights and its arbitrary measures against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

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Jordan Times

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Six years after

MUCH has changed in the Middle East since the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat made his trip to Jerusalem six years ago this week. But it is mainly Egypt itself that has changed the most.

To say that Egyptian Middle East diplomacy now is little more than the pleadings of an anguished bystander, because Cairo lacks either the military clout of the seventies or the financial power of Saudi Arabia, is a bit simplistic. Perhaps other factors — internal, Arab and international — have come into play to make Egypt a country less powerful than what it should be — but the fact remains that it is the leadership quality of Egypt in the Arab World that has basically changed.

We see a proof of this claim in the current divisions among the Arabs. One day, many of us look to Egypt as our possible saviour from all the troubles we have. In the next, we discover that Cairo suffers from as much directionlessness as the rest of us do.

There is not the slightest doubt that Israel — dependent on strong help from the United States — has succeeded in isolating Egypt from the Arab World and the Arab World from Egypt, if only to have a freer hand in perpetrating the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza and the Golan Heights — and also to go in Lebanon the way the Israelis have done. Since signing the Camp David accords until this day, both Egypt and the rest of the Arabs have just played to Israel's tune, and there seems to be no easy way out of the dilemma.

Everybody recognises the need to return Egypt to the Arab fold, but we fall short of the right basis for a happy reunion. Again the leadership question is the main sticking point on each occasion.

If Egypt were to be restored as just another Arab country — equal in status and political weight to North Yemen or Somalia for instance — there definitely would be no problem in rehabilitating it. At issue, however, is not counting Egypt as one more Arab state: it is whether we would want the biggest and consequently most powerful member of the Arab Nation to lead us again, or we would not.

The question boils down to basics. Is Egypt's current direction the right one for us? Is Sadat's example in making peace with Israel to be followed? Is there direction or an example in Egyptian Middle East policy?

Unfortunately, the basics remain unanswered. And that's why perhaps we have been unable to determine what the next step with Egypt should be — six long years since Sadat made it to Jerusalem, and returned with little.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Interests intertwined

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein believes Jordan and Palestine form a united nation. They really have much in common, and the interest of one is closely linked with that of the other. For this reason, King Hussein was keen in his speech to the Royal Command and Staff Academy Monday on urging the Arab leaders to interfere and stop the massacre in Lebanon where Palestinian blood is being shed. He said that condemning the acts of the Libyan and Syrian regimes is not enough as the situation calls for a real and serious action that can deter the two regimes from committing further crimes against the Palestinians and other innocent civilians.

In his call to the Arab leaders King Hussein was responding to a desperate cable from PLO chief Yasser Arafat — the beleaguered Palestinian leader now struggling to safeguard Palestinian unity in the face of conspiracies. Again, since the interests of Palestinians and Jordanians are one, the stab in the back of Palestinians is directed at the Jordanian people at large, and that was the reason for King Hussein's call on Arab leaders to confront the conspiracy and end the onslaught on the Palestinian people.

Jordan is a frontline fence protecting the Arabs from aggression and enemy ambitions, and it is therefore the duty and responsibility of other Arab states to see that Jordan's interests are not harmed or affected. Other Arab states should realise the fact that Jordan's call for firm action against the Syrian and Libyan — led rebels is an essential requirement at present so as to save the Arab Nation from similar conspiracies in the future.

Al Dustour: Same aims, destiny

AMIDST THE divisions and loss of vision in the Arab World and in light of the massacres currently being committed against the Palestinian people, King Hussein's voice came over loud and clear. He warned the Arabs that they should stand up and face the conspiracy and confront the new challenges that are imposed on this nation in general and the Palestinian people in particular. Jordan, the King said, is in a unique frontline position and has assumed the defence of the Arab-Nation. Jordan is a country that cannot shirk its national responsibilities like others, nor can it remain silent and indifferent to the events in Lebanon particularly as they affect the Palestinian people.

Jordan regards itself as directly affected by the Palestinian problem and developments affiliated to it in every respect, due to the very close links between the Jordanian and Palestinian people who have the same destiny, aims and future.

Sawt Al Shaab: Setting a good example

IN A speech to the graduates of the Royal Staff and Command Academy Monday, King Hussein referred to the unity of blood and destiny binding the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. King Hussein considers the interests of both people as the same, owing to the close and strong ties between them and their common objectives and aspirations. King Hussein's speech reflected the continuous political stand of this country in trying to achieve a strong Arab Nation, and its meanings represented the principles of those of the Great Arab Revolt which this country has inherited.

By pointing out the challenges and the new dangers confronting Iraq, Lebanon and the Palestinians, King Hussein was urging the Arab leaders to shoulder their responsibilities. He said Jordan, in its defence of the Palestinians and their rights, has set a good example to the other Arab countries which should commit themselves to serving Arab unity and goals.

NATO: More money for the warlord

By Paul Taylor
 Reader

BRUSSELS — As the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) goes through the agony of deploying new medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, Western officials are shelving controversial issues which could create new strain in the Atlantic alliance.

But once the first United States cruise and Pershing-2 missiles have been deployed in West Germany, Italy and Britain, several new and not-so-new challenges are waiting to confront the alliance.

The issues likely to top NATO's agenda for the 1980s are improving conventional forces, developing new technologies, co-ordinating arms production and meeting security threats outside the North Atlantic treaty area.

They are all expensive and arouse national and transatlantic sensibilities which could prove deeply divisive.

The Reagan administration has not pressed these issues for the last 18 months to avoid complicating the task of European governments in dealing with vociferous anti-missile movements. But U.S. and

European officials agree the truce within NATO will end in 1984.

U.S. officials say their main priority is to persuade West Europeans to cooperate in developing new conventional weapons capable of performing tasks previously assigned to nuclear arms.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger launched this effort last December, outlining to NATO defence ministers what became known as the "Weinberger initiative on emerging technologies."

Its thesis is that NATO must exploit its technological superiority over the Soviet Union to produce electronics-based arms which could stop Warsaw Pact reinforcement in a European war by sinking deep into Eastern Europe.

The Weinberger initiative was greeted warily by some allies who suspected a "buy American" campaign and feared the likely cost of such weapons systems at a time when defence budgets are already under severe strain.

The U.S. has not put a price-tag on the scheme, but NATO's supreme commander in Europe, General Bernard Rogers, says it will take a four per cent real annual increase in military spending throughout the 1980s to harness such new technology.

Most allies are falling short of the present target of three per cent real growth a year and see no chance of spending more. U.S. officials fear a backlash in Congress next spring when Mr. Weinberger presents a report on defence burden-sharing in NATO.

Given the reluctance or inability of most European members to meet even the present spending goal, Washington is trying to sell the emerging technologies plan as a way of cutting the high cost of modern weapons, of "getting more bang for the buck."

U.S. NATO ambassador David Abshire said in a recent speech, "If Europe can be induced to work toward a rationalised defence procurement effort in place of its current separate efforts, waste, duplication and inefficiency would be eliminated."

Mr. Abshire acknowledges that the American military-industrial complex must first be convinced that it is in its own interest to share know-how and business with the Europeans.

"Europe, too, must get its act together," he says, adding that after the mixed results of mid-1970s efforts at arms cooperation, "a go-it-alone mentality has emerged in Europe making it harder rather than easier to cooperate."

Mr. Abshire argues that transatlantic arms cooperation and "more of a common market in the defence industrial field" are the only ways to prevent protectionism within NATO and make it possible for the European allies to afford the weapons of the future.

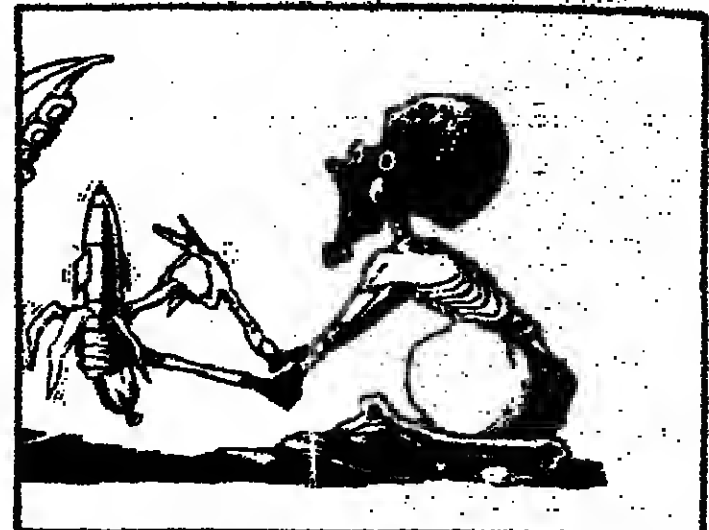
The question of how to meet "out of area" security challenges is even more fraught with national sensitivities than the arms technology debate.

U.S. officials say the idea of defending a clearly defined area against external assault, the founding principle of NATO, is outdated since some of the most serious threats occur beyond the North Atlantic treaty area.

"We want to develop a shared perception of Western vital interests, starting with Southwest Asia, which is the area of main concern and where there are the most West European interests," an American official said.

The European allies, while joining the U.S. individually in some "out-of-area" ventures such as Lebanon, are reluctant to make commitments within NATO and some smaller members have deep objections to any broader "world policeman" role.

The U.S. official said Washington was working towards an understanding on three principles in dealing with threats outside the treaty area:



"That those allies in a position to do so should deploy military force, that those which do not send forces would compensate for any gap left in European defences, and that non-participating members would facilitate the transit of men and equipment."

France and Britain still play important military roles in some remaining or former colonies. But West Germany, for example, is prevented by its constitution from sending troops outside the NATO area.

Most European allies and Canada would not wish to commit themselves to systematic support for worldwide U.S. actions.

One European NATO ambassador commented: "I think we are willing to provide some facilities but on the basis of national decisions, we would want to judge each case on its merits."

Another said: "Out-of-area action can never be a question of an automatic response."

Had Kennedy lived, would he have avoided Vietnam?

By Arthur Spiegelman
 Reader

NEW YORK — If he had lived, would John F. Kennedy have avoided a full-scale American war in Vietnam?

Would Mr. Kennedy, who some feel may have started the nuclear arms race, have achieved a détente with the Soviet Union not realised until his bitter political foe became president?

These are some of the questions still being debated today as Americans mark the 20th anniversary of Kennedy's death.

For key Kennedy administration figures and historians, Vietnam is the issue on which there seems the least agreement.

James Macgregor Burns, a prominent Kennedy historian, thinks that had Mr. Kennedy lived, the United States would have avoided the Vietnam quagmire that eventually saw more than 500,000 U.S. troops engaged in battle and drove Lyndon Johnson from office amidst bitter anti-war protests.

U.S. Defence Department documents quote Mr. Kennedy as telling Mike Mansfield, then Senate majority leader and now ambassador to Japan, that his goal was a total withdrawal in 1965. A new book, Ralph Martin's "A Hero for our Times," says Mr. Kennedy told close friends the same thing.

Historian Arthur Schlesinger, a former Kennedy aide, agrees. He said Mr. Kennedy had a plan for complete U.S. withdrawal that was cancelled shortly after Mr. Johnson took office on Nov. 22, 1963.

But Dean Rusk, Secretary of State to Kennedy and Johnson, says Mr. Kennedy never expressed such intentions to him. He is convinced Mr. Kennedy would have done the same as Mr. Johnson.

"I talked to him (Kennedy) hundreds of times and he never hinted at it," Mr. Rusk told Reuters.

"Had he decided in 1963 to take troops out in 1965, it would have been a decision to leave troops in combat for two years for domestic political reasons. Mr. Kennedy would not have done that. He would have said: 'We have to do it now.'"

Mr. Rusk concedes Mr. Kennedy may have broached the idea in private talks, but never when he was "wearing his presidential hat."

Gabriel Kolko, a professor of history at York University in Toronto, who is writing a history of the Vietnam war, agrees.

"It is hard to bad-mouth a dead man, but there is no documentary evidence he would have reversed the pattern of Vietnam escalation," Mr. Kolko said. "Vietnam was the result of postwar U.S. foreign policy, not of one man or a whim."

Mr. Kennedy had struggled with Vietnam, Mr. Kolko said, and had he had more time, his failure would have been more severe. "It was Kennedy's people who formed the brains of Johnson's administration and ran the war."

Theodore Sorensen, one of Mr. Kennedy's closest advisers, disagrees with academics like Mr. Kolko and officials like Mr. Rusk.

"It is asking a lot to expect those officials (such as Rusk) who served under the Johnson build-up to say Kennedy would have acted

differently," Sorensen told Reuters.

"My firm belief is that he would not have gone along and I base that on his actions in other crises. The Bay of Pigs (the U.S.-backed invasion of Cuba in 1961) taught him the danger of purely military solutions."

Mr. Sorensen said military advisers had urged Mr. Kennedy to send in combat troops and bomb Hanoi but he had rejected the advice. Mr. Johnson had not.

If Mr. Kennedy's Vietnam policy stirs dispute, there is near-unanimous admiration for his handling of the most dramatic and dangerous episode of his day: the Cuban missile crisis of October 1962, with its menace of U.S.-Soviet nuclear war.

Historians rank Mr. Kennedy's management of this crisis as his finest hour, saying he was under great pressure to respond to the Soviet placing of nuclear missiles in Cuba by either bombing them or invading Cuba.

Conflicting messages were sent from Moscow, one belligerent and other conciliatory. Mr. Kennedy deliberately responded only to the positive one, leaving Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev a face-saving way out. In the end, the missiles were withdrawn.

Mr. Kennedy was cool in moments of crisis and did not let his emotions distort his judgements," Mr. Rusk recalled.

"Let me tell you when I think we run the danger of nuclear war: it is when people are driven into a corner and lose all stake in the outcome and decide to play the role of Samson and bring the temple down."

Mr. Kennedy told us not to push Mr. Khrushchev into a corner, and when the crisis was over he instructed us not to gloat."

Mr. Sorensen believes that the aftermath of the missile crisis opened the door for a new U.S.-Soviet relationship and that Mr. Kennedy was reaching for that in his final days.

In a speech in June 1963, five months before his death, he urged a Soviet-American re-examination of cold-war attitudes.

However, some analysts say today's nuclear arms race is a legacy of Mr. Kennedy's decision to build 1,000 additional U.S. intercontinental ballistic missiles. He took that step even after learning that the "missile gap" he had cited as a 1960 campaign issue did not exist and America had superiority.

A recent American television documentary quoted both Mikhail Gorbachev, a former member of the Soviet General Staff, and former Defence Secretary Robert McNamara, as saying this step sparked the arms race.

At home, two of Mr. Kennedy's greatest achievements came after his death: a tax cut that rejuvenated the economy and the historic 1964 civil rights act that virtually outlawed racial segregation in U.S. public life. Both had been set in motion by Mr. Kennedy before his assassination.

The Rights Act was only passed only after tumultuous demonstrations led by Martin Luther King Junior and other blacks. Some feel Mr. Kennedy did not press for this bill early enough. Others say he moved as fast as the politics of the day allowed.

Finally, historians say Mr. Kennedy would have been re-elected by a big majority, winning the "mandate" he lacked in his first term.

Panama: Possible shift to the left

Elections in Panama could mean a shift to the left in Washington's backyard. William Chislett reports on a vote that the U.S. will eye very anxiously.

PANAMA — The home of the canal which acts as a funnel for world trade and also of the largest offshore banking centre in the Americas. Is moving towards its first democratic elections in 16 years amid considerable political uncertainty.

The surprise move recently by Gen. Ruben Dario Paredes, the former head of the National Guard, to withdraw his presidential candidature for the ruling Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) has altered the country's political map at a stroke.

Gen. Paredes, a staunch anti-Communist, had moved Panama much closer to the U.S. after the death in 1981 of the country's strongman, Gen. Omar Torrijos. Gen. Torrijos, whom President Reagan once called a "tinhorn dictator," helped the left-wing Sandinistas to power in Nicaragua by giving them logistical support. He maintained close relations with Fidel Castro of Cuba and other revolutionaries in the region.

Gen. Paredes, who openly supported Washington's militaristic policy towards Central America, recently said that if he became

president he would break diplomatic relations with Nicaragua and Cuba.

His chances of becoming President however were dashed only two weeks after he resigned from the command of the National Guard, the country's only armed force, to campaign for next May's elections.

Gen. Paredes, an abrasive and highly ambitious man, had started to form a parallel government in ministries and the PRD. When President Ricardo de la Esparilla, who was helped to power by Gen. Paredes, reshuffled his cabinet in September, Gen. Paredes tried to enforce his list of new ministers upon the president. Mr. de la Esparilla protested and told Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, the new head of the National Guard, that he would resign unless he could choose his own ministers.

This, said officials, was the trump card which Gen. Noriega had been waiting for. It gave him the opportunity to ease out Gen. Paredes on the grounds that he was causing a political crisis. Mr. de la Esparilla named his new cabinet and Gen. Paredes, aware

that his power base had disappeared, had no option but to throw in the towel.

Gen. Noriega, a Machiavellian figure (for many years he ran the country's intelligence services), is now the real power and kingmaker in Panama. Had Gen. Paredes become president the two men would have been vying for power.

Gen. Noriega is taking a less pro-U.S. stance towards Central America. He is backing the Contadora group of Latin American countries which has worked out a negotiated settlement to end the civil war in El Salvador and ease tensions between Honduras and Nicaragua. Gen. Paredes flew in the face of his own government by undermining the Contadora peace initiative which Panama helped to establish.

The most likely choice for the PRD's presidential candidate is Mr. Ernesto Perez Balladares, who represents the centre-left wing of the party. He is a former planning and finance minister and secretary-general of the PRD, which was founded in 1979 by the late Gen. Torrijos. Mr. Perez Balladares was one of Gen. Torrijos's choices to be president in 1984 when the general intended to take much more of a back seat.

Washington is keenly watching events in Panama. It is nervous of abrupt political change and instability or a nationalistic backlash against its presence. Apart from the canal, which the U.S. controls until the year 2000, the U.S. Southern Command is also based in Panama. The command is the U.S. military and intelligence centre for Central America.

It is also the staging post for military reconnaissance flights over the region and the transshipment of arms to the U.S.-backed government in El Salvador and to right-wing Nicaraguan rebels in Honduras fighting to overthrow the Sandinista government in Managua.

Negotiations have already started over the future of the School of the Americas, part of the Southern Command, control of which passes to Panama next October under the canal treaties. The school provides training for Latin American officers in a region dominated by military dictatorships.

If Panama presses for full control of the school, the U.S. would have to consider relocating it. The new base in Honduras where Salvadoran troops are currently training is an obvious alternative. — Financial Times news feature

LSE gets a prestigious brown director

LONDON — The governors of one of the Western world's premier educational establishments, the London School of Economics and Political Science, (LSE) have announced the appointment of a new director. The news attracted surprisingly little attention.

The appointee is Indraprasad Gokhale Patel, a former assistant chief of the Financial Problems and Policies Division of the (IMP), a former governor of the Bank of India, a member of Helmut Schmidt's brain trust and an economist — in the opinion of the former governor of the Bank of England, Gordon Richardson — who came up with brilliantly constructive ideas on how to deal with the monetary crises of the 1970s.

There is something peculiar about the white world's attitude to "brown" people. If a black wins a

high honour it is news, but browns are neither in nor out. They win Nobel prizes in physics or literature and are barely noticed.

The LSE board has made a bold decision. The school's status has never been higher. The 10-year tenure as director of Ralph Dahrendorf, the West German sociologist, revived its sagging fortunes, both academic and monetary. So strong is its reputation that it could have almost anyone it wanted.

Mr. Patel did not apply for the job. He was sought out. But then, as one member of the selection committee said, "English logic is that no one who applies for a job can be the right person."

He grew up in Baroda, then a princely state with a great degree of autonomy from British India. The ruler pushed education and

Mr. Patel was beneficiary. He headed the lists in all-India exams and ended up at Cambridge on a Baroda state scholarship.

Patel is a caste name. The patels were low caste, a step above the harijans. Education burst the dike and they became a powerful merchant and political class, not just in the modern state of Gujarat, which incorporated Baroda, but also in East Africa, whence many were expelled. Most came to Britain, where they are perhaps the most dynamic economic group.

The LSE is not an easy organisation to move. Its students are fiercely independent, and its faculty even more so. The director has only the power of persuasion. Mr. Dahrendorf showed, however, that the leadership can raise confidence and, with it, prestige.

Mr. Patel is likely to make the LSE even more international than Mr. Dahrendorf did.

It has always had strong links with the United States. John Kennedy studied there and its present rising star in the U.S. administration is Richard Perle, assistant secretary of defence.

Mr. Patel will want the LSE to be more involved in the Third World. He has done pioneer work on the disturbing effects of inflation in developing economies.

What the LSE did for British social policies under the guidance of founders Sidney and Beatrice Webb and such scholars as Lord Beveridge, Richard Titmuss and Brian Abel-Smith may be repeated now for the Third World. The LSE is capable of sustaining such an intellectual revolution — International Herald Tribune.

Arab-American community flourishing in Houston

By Gregory Orfalea

They say the first word uttered on the moon was "Houston" NASA, the guider of Apollo and other space shots, is based in Houston. In addition, a moon-like landscape of spectacular buildings is evidence that Houston is America's fastest-growing city (the nation's fourth largest behind New York, Los Angeles and Chicago).

Though there are signs that Houston's immunity to the prevailing recession is ebbing (unemployment is up for the first time in years and disgruntled labourers who left depressed Detroit for booming Houston are now on welfare), there is no denying a magic wand went over this south Texas floodplain in the past 15 years — an oil wand — and behold! A contemporary architect's garden of delights.

To add to the moonscape, a jet traveller is treated to a frightening sight as his plane taxis in at Houston's Hobby airport: White smoke pours from the plane's ceiling. No, this is not a massive dose of pre-takeoff oxygen, nor is it Star Wars with spurs and lariats. This is condensation caused by Houston's extreme humidity, a weather a lot like the Arabian Gulf where gas and petroleum burn-off jets are never far from sight.

Maybe this is why Houston opened the largest Islamic art exhibition in America's history. Queen Noor (whose Arab-American father hails from nearby Dallas) delivered the dedicating speech for "The Heritage of Islam" which has toured three U.S. cities and is currently at the

Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. There is a sizable Arab-American community here (12,000), no doubt abetted by decades of U.S.-Saudi oil expertise exchange. Texas was covered with derricks after the world's largest oil gusher at Spindletop in 1901.

To the practiced eye, the imprint of the Arab World can be found all over Houston. If one is searching for truffles, caviar, fine wine, the oldest cheese in town the place to go is Jamail's. Houston's gourmet supermarket. However, due to a split in the old Lebanese American family, there are now two Jamail's: Jim Jamail and Sons, and Jamail Brothers. Sounds like a good old Middle Eastern rift, eh? You bet! and the name, podner? Yes is part of the House of Gemayel.

When Lebanon's president, Amin Gemayel, came to the U.S. this summer he made the last of two stops in Houston, just to see family. Two thousand Texans showed up, many claiming they were relatives, some doing everything to claim they were not. The president was two hours late; security was tight as a Texan slipknot.

There are 3,000 Arab doctors listed with the Arab American Medical Association. Because Houston's Medical Center is one of the largest in the world, Arab doctors abound here.

Perhaps the only surgeon in the world on daily world call lives here — Dr. Michael DeBakey, the pioneer of open heart surgery, of Lebanese origin, requires reservations months in advance for the service of his miraculous

hands. At 75, Dr. DeBakey still performs over five operations a day. It was remembered that DeBakey operated on the Shah of Iran. The eminent doctor has been named as science advisor to President Reagan's Committee for the Reconstruction of Lebanon.

That committee's chairman is another Houstonian, and Lebanese American, Michael Halbouty, whose incredible life in the oil business is detailed in Wildcat (McGraw-Hill publisher). Mr. Halbouty, 74, strides into his spacious office like a Panhandle tornado. Reagan's campaign chief in seven southern states in 1980, Halbouty urged the president to back Amin Gemayel to the hilt, even if it incurs the wrath of Israel. He is critical of Israel's invasion of Lebanon and has counselled Mr. Gemayel personally to "integrate" the country, de-confessionalise completely, or risk partition.

Close to the palatial mansions of Houston's Royal Oaks is the poorest section of town, the Fourth Ward. A thousand of Houston's poor live in the squalid, two-storey public housing, 60 per cent of whom are Vietnamese, the rest mostly black. And of course the only place for the booming central city to bulge outward in development is the Fourth Ward.

A Palestinian American is in charge of a project that will recommend their to renovate or destroy the Fourth Ward. Picture that! A Palestinian holding the fate of Vietnamese boat people in his hands! Only in America, friends. Middle East International

Space museum enjoys great popularity

By Pat McMurray

WASHINGTON The U.S. National Air and Space Museum, located in Washington, is just seven years old but already the most popular museum in the world. About 10 million people pass through its doors every year.

As you walk up the front steps of the building and look through its big plate-glass windows, you'll see airplanes and spacecraft suspended from the ceiling inside. The building reminds some people of a giant airplane hangar. You may recognise the Wright Brothers' U.S. inventors' original 1903 Flyer, the first trail machine to fly with a person aboard, and Charles Lindbergh's "Spirit of St. Louis," the plane that took the U.S. aviator on the first solo non-stop flight across the Atlantic in 1927. As you enter one of the doors, you join a crowd surrounding the U.S. Apollo 11 space capsule.

The director of the museum, Walter Boyne, says his exhibits are popular because people have a personal relationship with them. "For example, many people have flown in a DC-3 (passenger aircraft), many people can recall where they were when an astronaut first landed on the moon, they recall the flights of the U.S. space shuttle and so on. So, there's a direct association."

According to Mr. Boyne, the museum has a twofold purpose. One is to preserve the American space heritage, and the other is to attract and inspire young people.

A wide variety of exhibits is on display in the museum, not just airplanes and spacecraft, but engines, propellers, rockets, and mot-

ors, flight instruments and pressure suits. And, there are several hands-on exhibits you can operate yourself.

Several movies are also shown throughout the day. The films are shown in a left dramatic format. They are projected with a big 70-millimeter projector onto a giant screen the height of a two-story building and seven stories wide. As you sit in the theatre watching people in the movie soar over the countryside in a balloon or blast off in a space shuttle, you're so close to the giant screen, you feel as if you're part of the action.

Mr. Boyne says he's been told the Air and Space Museum theatre is the single most popular theatre of all time. 1,000 seats in the museum is a different kind of projecting room — the Albert Einstein Spacearium, where instruments display the stars and the planets on the inside of a dome 21 metres wide. Special projectors give viewers the illusion of travelling into space.

One of the most popular exhibits is the Apollo 11 moon gallery which features the instrument panel of the U.S. Apollo Command Module, as well as the "Lunar Roving Vehicle," the first motor vehicle used on the moon. The gallery also contains medical kits used by the astronauts, their space suits, and samples of some space food. One of the most popular items in the museum gift shop is the freeze-dried ice cream, just like the ice cream the astronauts ate in space. You can see it in the gallery and then buy your very own package in the gift shop.

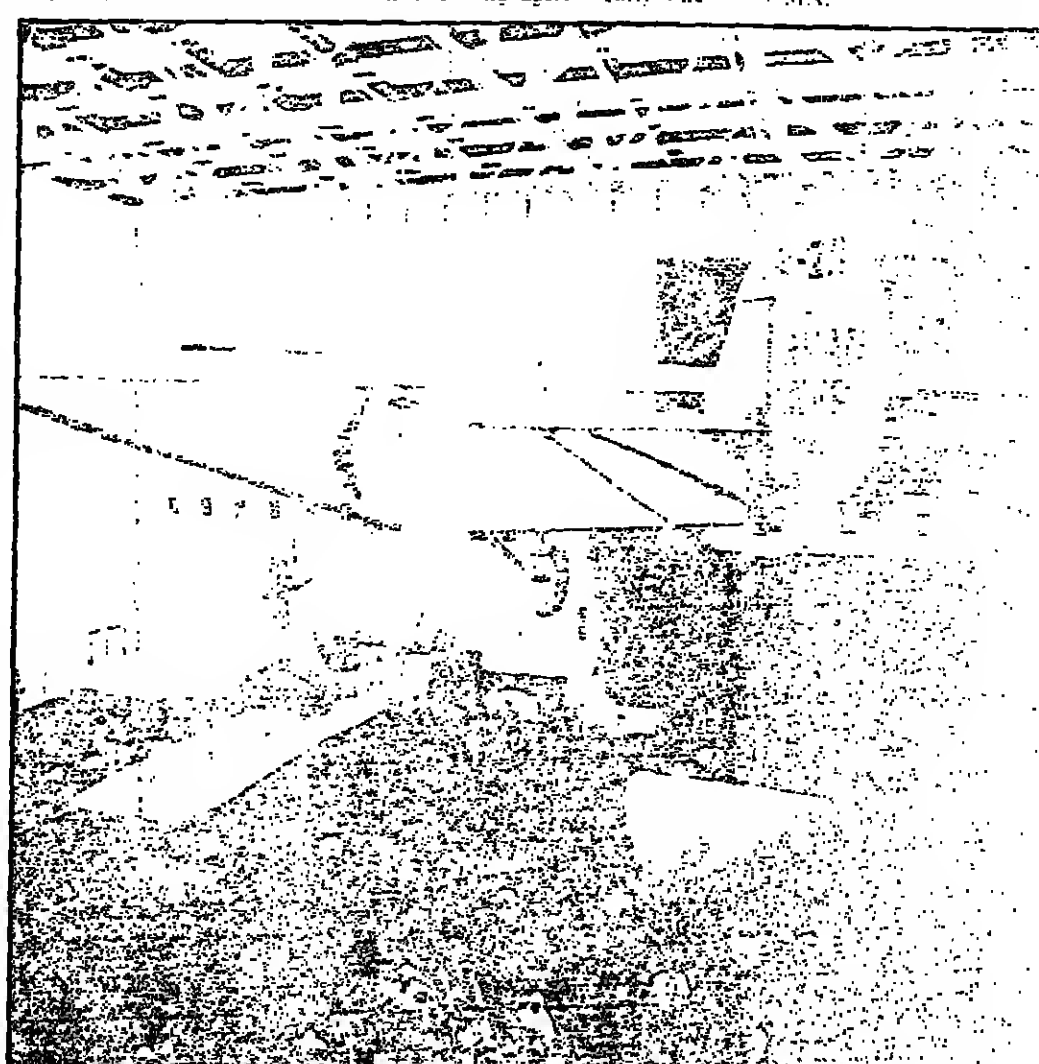
But not all the exhibits are American, in fact, Mr. Boyne says the museum is an international

place because air and space explorers and scientists have always shared their knowledge.

Italian, Dutch, German and

French aircraft are on display, and visitors from foreign countries will find signs and guides printed in the languages. Nearly one-

hundred of the visitors to the National Air and Space Museum, the 19-3 came from a foreign country.



U.S. National Air and Space Museum, located in Washington, is one of the most popular exhibits in the world, attracting more than 10 million visitors a year. (Photo from Press and Publications Service)

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SPORTS

Unknown Australian crushes Mandlikova

SYDNEY (R) — Czechoslovak Hana Mandlikova's brittle temperament let her down once again as she crashed to defeat in the second round of the New South Wales (NSW) Open tennis championship Tuesday.

The top seed, the most naturally gifted player on the circuit, was beaten 6-3, 5-7, 6-4 by 21-year-old Australian Elizabeth Sayers, ranked 96th in the world, whose nerve held in a gripping finale after she had squandered two match points in the second set.

Mandlikova, 21, a former champion of France and Australia and a runner-up at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open, produced a typically infuriating display of breathtaking winners and beginner's mistakes.

The Czechoslovak, using this event as part of her build up to the Australian Open in two weeks' time, received a first round bye and was obviously short of practice on grass.

Sayers, who described her win as the best result of her career, was the more confident in the opening

set which she took after breaking the Mandlikova serve for a 4-2 lead.

Sayers played herself into a match-winning position when she served at 5-4 in the second set. Despite two double faults she held two match points but threw both away with foolhardy unforced errors.

For the first and only time in the match, Mandlikova imposed her authority and took three successive games to level at one set all.

The little Australian was not to be denied, however, and she regained her earlier composure to finish a deserved winner.

Mandlikova was followed out the exit door by two other seeds. American Barbara Potter and South African Yvonne Vermaak.

Koopmans retains boxing title

PARIS (R) — Rudi Koopmans of the Netherlands retained his European light-heavyweight boxing title with a 12-round points victory over Frenchman Rufino Angulo here Monday night.

It was the 35-year-old Dutchman's 11th defence of the title he won from Italy's Aldo Traversari in 1979. He has kept it longer than any European titleholder has since World War II.

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Australia, Sweden start advance preparation for Davis Cup final

MELBOURNE (R) — The build-up to the Davis Cup tennis final between Australia and Sweden — which is still a month away — began quietly Tuesday with both teams opening their training schedules.

But while the six-man Swedish squad were put through a light loosening up session by coach Jon Sjögren here, Australian captain Neale Fraser was just delighted to have his team in the country.

Fraser had planned to bring his squad together in Melbourne Monday, but a last-minute change of plan meant only Pat Cash and Paul McNamee practised at the suburban Kooyong stadium here, venue for the three-day final which starts on Dec. 26.

Fraser was not concerned about the sudden change of plan though. "The final is still a month away," he said, "and to have them all together in Australia so soon is great."

In the past I have not been able at times to get them together until a week before a tie."

Of the other four Australian team members, only John Fitzgerald is committed to a tournament, a three-day event in Canberra. Mark Edmondson, John Alexander and Brad Drett are practising in Sydney.

"At one stage I thought it would be better to have them all down here but there is no urgency," Fraser said. "I will have them all here at the weekend."

Fraser watched the Swedes in their first practice session Tuesday. They are playing their second Davis Cup final in eight years — they beat Czechoslovakia in 1975 — but Sjögren admits they do not like playing on grass. "But they realise it is necessary in this final," he said.

Sjögren plans to begin hard training Wednesday, with a couple of intensive two-hour long sessions a day.

He will be in charge of the squad — Mats Wilander, Anders Jarryd, Hans Simonsson, Joakim Nystrom, Henrik Sundstrom and 17-year-old Stefan Edberg — until captain Hans Olsson arrives here on Dec. 13.

Both squads will mix training and tournament play by competing in the Australian open at Kooyong which starts next Monday. Both squads are also due to play the New South Wales Open in Sydney between Dec. 12 and 18.

Edberg, who has his sights fixed on the Australian Open junior singles title, impressed most observers. Victory would give him the world junior Grand Slam — he has already won the French Open, Wimbledon and U.S. junior crowns this year.

Soviet soccer manager sacked

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet first division soccer manager Viktor Korolkov has been sacked for match-fixing after his highly successful club Volgograd Rotor crashed 6-0 to lowly rivals Rostov.

The Moscow daily Sovetskaya Rossiya said Rotor fans grew suspicious when their side made little attempt to halt Rostov's weak attacks.

Their complaints prompted an investigation which discovered

that Korolkov had agreed to throw the match to help ease Rostov's relegation worries. In return he was promised a win by the same proportion next season.

Korolkov steered Rotor out of the second division two seasons ago and took them from 14th to fourth place in the first division this year. He was hoping to take the side into the premier division next season and was evidently arranging a few extra points.

Kallicharan bats 92 for rebel cricketers

PRETORIA (R) — Former West Indies batting star Alvin Kallicharan smashed a rapid 92 as the rebel West Indian cricketers showed more of their true form on the final day of their three-day match against Northern Transvaal Tuesday.

But the winning target of 272 set by the provincial side proved too much and once the Guyanese left-hander had been dismissed the tourists settled for a draw.

Imran to stay out of Australian tour

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani cricket authorities Tuesday ruled out skipper Imran Khan from the current series in Australia and said vice-captain Zaheer Abbas would take over the captaincy for the remaining four tests.

Pakistan Cricket Control Board president Nur Khan told a news conference in the Punjab provincial capital Lahore that the decision was taken by the board's council Tuesday in the light of latest medical reports about Imran's fitness, the official APP news agency reported.

Imran, suffering from a stress fracture of the left shin, was named last month to lead the team to Australia for the five-test series. But he missed the first test in Perth and said last week that he was not optimistic about being fit for the second test beginning in Brisbane next Friday.

Nur Khan said Imran would not be called home and had been advised to get treatment in Australia. If Imran recovers before the end of the series, he will play under

Zaheer Abbas, the board president said.

Imran was appointed captain last month against the wishes of the selection committee which resigned in protest at this and other changes in its recommended team.

The board was later criticised by several Pakistani cricket writers since Imran has not been fit enough to play on the tour.

In an editorial last week, the daily Dawn of Karachi said a new captain must be named for the remaining four tests "to infuse confidence in players and restore the sagging morale of the side."

Imran, who suffered the injury when he led Pakistan to victory against India last January, led the team in the World Cup in England last summer when he played only as a batsman.

Selectors may drop fast bowler

SYDNEY (R) — Australia's cricket selectors will have a difficult choice to make if they decide to drop a fast bowler for the second

test against Pakistan starting in Brisbane on Friday.

The selectors named an unchanged 12-man party Tuesday, a predictable response to Australia's victory in the first test by an innings and nine runs.

The four-man pace attack emerged with honours from that victory on the fast Perth pitch but conditions are likely to be very different in Brisbane and the selectors will be tempted to call in left-arm spinner Tom Hogan.

But none of the fast bowlers deserves to be dropped. Carl Rackemann, the junior member of the quartet, took 11 wickets in Perth while Rodney Hogg, unlucky to take only four wickets, often looked the most dangerous of the quick bowlers.

Deennis Lillee, the world's leading wicket-taker in tests, and Geoff Lawson, the only bowler to emerge with any credit from Australia's 3-0 series defeat in Pakistan a year ago, have obvious claims to keep their places.

Korchnoi wins 1st game in World Chess

LONDON (R) — Soviet defector Viktor Korchnoi, playing black, won a stunning victory Monday night, defeating the Soviet Union's rising star, Gary Kasparov, in the first game of a 12-game World Chess Championship elimination match.

Kasparov came under time pressure after gaining no profit from the advantage of the first move. The 20-year-old Soviet player resigned after 52 moves, and the pair shook hands before leaving the stage, marking a thaw in the tempestuous Korchnoi's relations

with the Soviet chess world.

Korchnoi, 52, whose feuds with his homeland produced major rows at the last two World Championship matches, entered this match as the underdog.

Kasparov is the world number two and many experts believe he has a strong chance of defeating world champion Anatoly Karpov if he emerges as the winner of the qualifying competition.

But as play got under way, the young Soviet player appeared surprised by Korchnoi's variation

on the popular queen's Indian defence. He played slowly from the outset and came under pressure both on the board and from the clock.

He found himself with only five minutes remaining for the last 16 moves of the first session. Each player must make 40 moves in the 2½ hours on his clock.

Vasily Smyslov, 62, of the Soviet Union and Zoltan Ribli, 32, of Hungary will begin the other semi-final. The winners will play off for the right to challenge Karpov.

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Amman Water and Sewerage Authority (AWSA) Extension of Date (Reuse of Effluent)

AWSA announces the extension of the closing date for the submission of Prequalification Documents and the Financial Offers concerning Consulting Services for the reuse of the treated effluent water from Waste Stabilization Ponds for agricultural use, until 10:00 a.m. December 19, 1983, which was due on December 5, 1983.

The Tender conditions and scope of work will be available until 10:00 a.m. December 4, 1983.

General Manager
Mohammed S. Kilani

TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR EXTENSION OF CLOSING DATE OF TENDER NO. TCC 10/83 FOR THE TELEPHONE NETWORK EXPANSION PROJECT IN THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan announces that the submission of Tenders for above mentioned Tender has been extended up to 1400 hours, December 31st, 1983, instead of 30th, November of 1983.

Eng. Moh'd Shehid Ismail
Director General

OCCASION

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Model: 1982

1 Sheepsfoot roller
Make: Dynapac, Sweden
Type: CA 25 PD
Model: 1980

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Neuro Co.
P.O. Box 868
Baghdad/Iraq
Phone: 90417

Telex: 2767 (NABBER IK)

Billie Jean celebrates birthday

SYDNEY (R) — Billie Jean King's 40th birthday was just another typical working day for the Grand Old Lady of Tennis Tuesday.

King, winner of a record 20 Wimbledon titles and 38 singles, doubles and mixed doubles Grand Slam events overall, celebrated the milestone while preparing for the New South Wales championships.

And in between receiving gifts from fellow players King still found time for a strenuous workout on the practice court.

King, one of tennis's all-time greats and still ranked 12th in the world, said: "I think older players will continue to make an impact on major tournaments. Being 40 doesn't mean you can't be competitive."

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Trading in ATT starts with roar

NEW YORK (R) — A roar from stockbrokers greeted the first deal in American Telephone and Telegraph Company (ATT) shares Monday, the first day of trading in new stock created by the breakup of the communications giant.

But the appearance of 1.6 million new shares in the world's largest company, as measured in terms of assets and employees, soon subsided once trading settled into the pattern predicted by analysts.

The new listing was the largest in one day's trading on the New York stock exchange but, following 22 months of planning, everything went smoothly with the exchange only slightly more crowded than usual.

ATT is being broken up as a result of a government anti-monopoly campaign.

Each holder of 10 ATT shares will receive 10 shares of the new ATT company and one share of each of the seven regional firms into which it is being reorganized.

But the new shares will not actually exist until new year's day and will trade for the next three months on a "when issued" basis, which means that cash cannot be delivered for shares traded until late February.

The New York stock exchange closed sharply higher on improved volume Monday as investors reacted to news that the Federal Reserve (Fed) eased its monetary policy between August and October.

The market's volume rose to about 95.92 million shares from 88.28 million on Friday.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed higher in response to Tuesday's advance on Wall Street but interest was small and selective, dealers said. At 1500 the F.T. index was up 5.3 at 724.1.

Government bonds firmed as much as half a point with new money in the form of dividend payments continuing to keep the market buoyant, dealers said.

Metal Box finished up at 288 after higher half year earnings. Gold shares made modest headway and North American stocks firmed.

Blue Circle ended 10p higher at 428, Glaxo rose 13p to 750, and Fisons firmed 15p to 739. ICI closed 4p off at 604 after 602 while Tate and Lyle reacted to recent gains losing 4p at 396.

Shell recovered 10p of last week's decline at 556 and other oils were mostly firmer. Banks fell as much as 5p but Lloyds added 3p against the trend at 527. Eagle Star lost 7p to 642 with the market still waiting for an increased offer from Allianz Versicherungs A.G.

Mercury Securities firmed 10p to 488 in further reaction to the terms agreed for the acquisition of 29.9 per cent in Akroyd and Smithers which eased 10p to 520.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4703/13	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2374/77	Canadian dollars
	2.6980/90	West German marks
	3.0255/65	Dutch guilders
	2.1760/70	Swiss francs
	54.87/92	Belgian francs
	8.2155/85	French francs
	1633.00/1634.00	Italian lire
	234.83/93	Japanese yen
	7.9430/60	Swedish crowns
	7.4875/4905	Norwegian crowns
	9.7320/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	375.75/376.25	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF

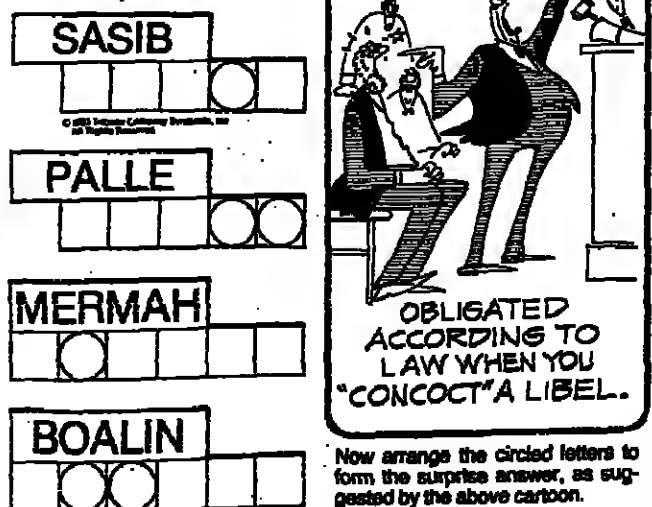
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"On Mondays my cereal doesn't say snap-crackle-pop. On Mondays it just groans."

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumble: NEEDY USURY COMMON RADISH

Answer: What she told her cowboy friend not to do—HORSE AROUND

NEWS IN BRIEF

Turkish trade deficit rises slightly

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's trade deficit widened slightly to \$2.6 billion in the first nine months of this year, from \$2.4 billion in the same 1982 period, official figures published Monday showed. Exports in the nine months totalled \$3.9 billion, from the \$3.8 billion in same 1982 period. Imports rose to \$6.5 billion from \$6.2 billion in the first nine months of 1982.

More U.S. foreign aid urged

WASHINGTON (R) — A high-level commission on U.S. foreign aid said Monday significant increases in assistance programmes were needed to meet American policy goals. The commission said U.S. foreign aid programmes had declined an average of about 21 per cent in the last five years. It said the separation of the current \$11.5 billion aid programme between economic and military aid had diminished its effectiveness and reduced public support.

Israel gets its first oil from Oslo

TEL AVIV (R) — The first shipment of oil from Norway arrived Tuesday in the southern Israeli port of Ashkelon, the Israel Fuel Authority said. The shipment totalled 120,000 tonnes and was part of an agreement with Norway to sell Israel a half million tonnes annually, the spokesman said. The price of the oil was not disclosed. Israel buys most of its oil from Egypt and Mexico and on the open market.

U.S. firms charged for tax fraud

NEW YORK (R) — Two New York securities firms distributed over \$130 million of fraudulent income tax deductions, a New York grand jury charged Monday. A 63-count indictment disclosed by U.S. attorney Mr. Rudolph Guiliani said 88 taxpayers were signed on as limited partners in the two firms, which operated for the 1979 and 1980 tax years. The firms — Sentinel Financial Instruments and Sentinel Government Securities — aimed to offer fraudulent opportunities to the partners which would enable them to claim tax deductions greater than their initial investment. Mr. Guiliani said. He described the indictment as "the most substantial tax fraud ever criminally charged."

Firm betters process for coal gas

SULZBACH-ROSENBERG, West Germany (R) — The West German steelmaker Kloeckner said Monday it has developed an economic process for turning "dirty" coal into clean gas. Company officials said the gas would cost no more than natural gas and could displace it and other conventional fuels in the industrial heating market.

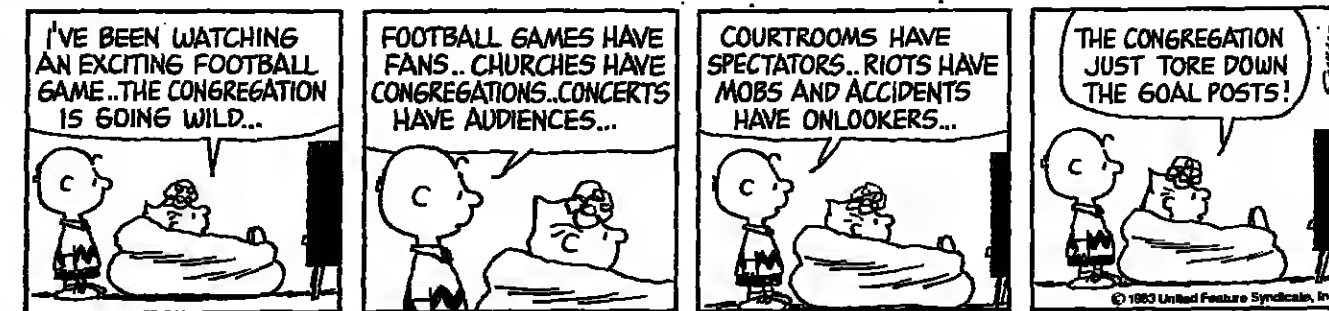
Economists see 5% U.S. growth

WASHINGTON (R) — Leading corporate economists expect the United States economy to expand by a robust average 5 per cent in 1984, according to a survey released Monday. The survey by the National Association of Business Economists, based on replies of its 200 members who advise the top U.S. companies, showed inflation would also average about 5 per cent next year — about the same as most forecasts for 1983. The survey also forecast the unemployment rate, now at 8.8 per cent, would drop to an average of about 8.3 per cent in 1984.

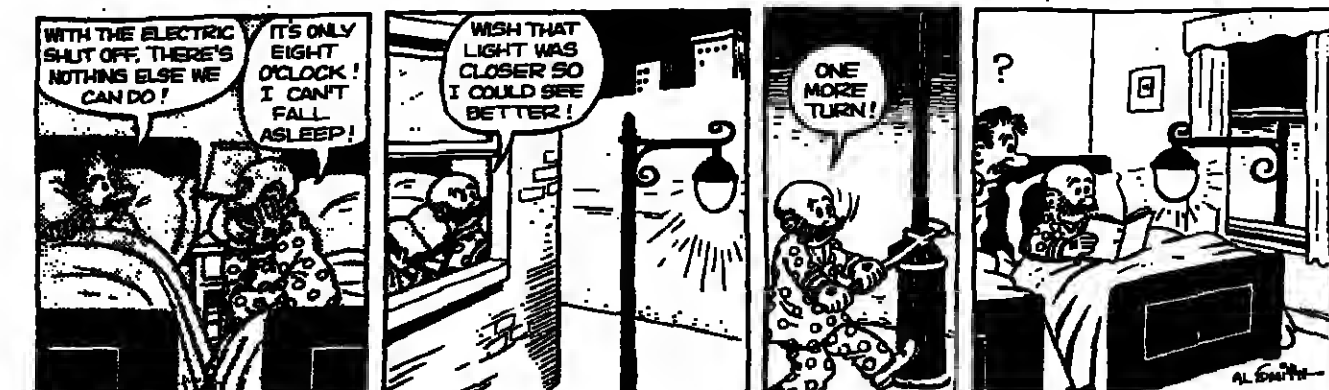
GATT to study Caribbean plan

GENEVA (R) — The world trade regulating body the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) has decided to set up a working party to study President Reagan's controversial plan to give trade and tax benefits to 28 non-communist countries in the Caribbean. The decision came during the opening day Monday of the 39th annual session of the GATT following Washington's request to waive some of its GATT obligations in order to set up the special trade area, a GATT spokesman said. Brazil said the scheme could harm Brazil's sugar trading interests. Cuba said it did not believe the plan would do any good.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Kuwait boosts oil production

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, which hosts a meeting of Arab oil producers Wednesday, is exceeding its OPEC oil output quota as part of efforts to help warring Iraq boost its export earnings, industry sources said Tuesday.

The one-day meeting of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is expected to discuss Iraqi exports, along with the 38-month-old Iraq-Iran war and an Iranian threat to close the Gulf to all oil exports.

Industry sources said Syria — which supports Iraq in the war — was also likely to come under pressure to reopen an Iraqi oil pipeline across its territory to the Mediterranean.

OPEC includes Kuwait, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Qatar, Libya, Algeria and Tunisia.

The industry sources here said Kuwait is currently producing between 1.1 million and 1.2 million barrels of oil per day (b/d) compared with its OPEC quota of 1.05 million to fulfill a so-called advance swap arrangement with Iraq.

Under the swap arrangement, leading OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) members Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are allowing between 200,000 and 300,000 b/d of crude to be lifted by importers on behalf of Baghdad, the sources said.

Iraq, which under the arrangement will allow the two states to lift similar amounts of its crude output at a later date, now is receiving revenue from about 1.1 million b/d of exported crude.

This includes about 800,000 b/d through a pipeline linking the Iraqi oil city of Kirkuk and the

the average for other major industrialised nations. And the study says Italy's position could become intolerable if external recovery pushes up raw material prices.

IMF warns Italy

ROME (R) — International Monetary Fund (IMF) economists have presented the Italian government with a tough warning that it must do more to cure the nation's economic ills.

An annual IMF report, made public Monday argues that Italy's 1984 budget policies are inadequate and that harsh additional measures will be needed early in the new year.

Treasury officials said the report, which was presented to the socialist-led government of Mr. Bettino Craxi earlier this month, showed the IMF was deeply worried about the economy.

It concludes that Italy has failed to correct its structural problems during the recession and that growth and employment prospects are limited by excessive public spending.

Italy's inflation rate, which was 13.3 per cent in October, is double

the average for other major industrialised nations. And the study says Italy's position could become intolerable if external recovery pushes up raw material prices.

The government's 1984 budget, which aims to hold public sector borrowing unchanged next year at 90,000 billion lire (\$35 billion) is "a step in the right direction, but an inadequate step because the public debt as a percentage of gross domestic product would still rise," says the report.

It casts doubt on the government's ability to reach its targets on borrowing or reducing inflation to 10 per cent next year.

It is also doubtful that pension and health spending cuts already announced will be fully realised.

The government is urged to reopen talks with the trade unions to curb pay rises and aim to reduce revenue erosion with new tax measures.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Morning is good for coming to a better understanding with others through cooperative attitudes on both sides. Later don't get involved in contentions with those close to you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You and an associate can come to a line understanding by giving in a little. Take care not to argue at home.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get your work done early in the morning in the most efficient way. Later, communicate well with others.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are enthusiastic about getting much accomplished early in the day. Get good results in money matters.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get that home situation well-handled in the morning and you soon get rid of that feeling of discontent.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Handle vital correspondence early. Don't permit a private worry to deter your progress in the business world.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You can finally handle that financial affair easily. Don't permit a somewhat psychotic friend to delude you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have fine ideas in the morning, but later you have all kinds of problems that need your full attention to solve.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Schedule your time and activities early so that you can accomplish a good deal, but steer clear of someone who is depressing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A good friend can help you to gain a personal wish that means much to you. Don't permit your mate to dissuade you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Go to a bigwig for support for a goal you have and get it. Steer clear of a partner who likes to harass you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have many interesting ideas in your mind, but work has to be completed, so go to it.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Follow that hunch in the morning and get things as you want them to be. Don't rush out later for expensive lun.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will see nothing wrong in others and will weigh and balance everything nicely. Encourage this. Your progeny will have his or her eyes opened to things as they are. Provide a good diet and give religious training.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

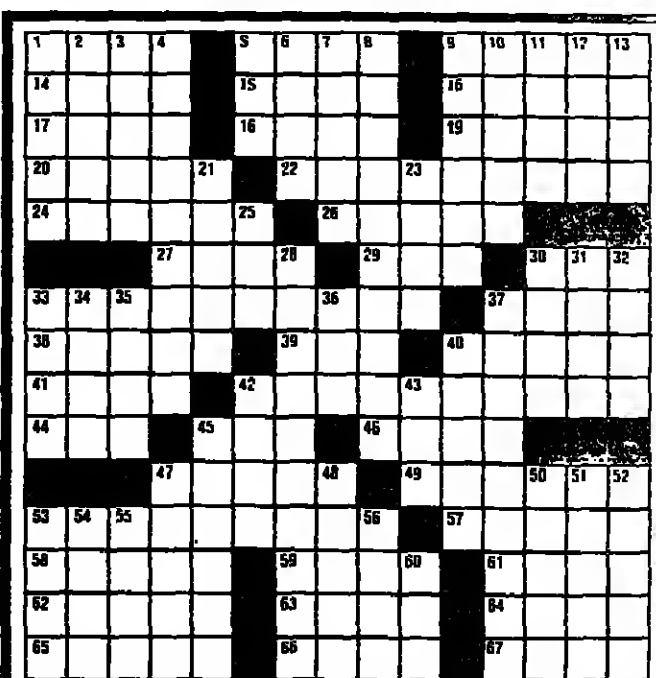
THE Daily Crossword

by Rhoda Kraus

ACROSS	29 Degree for an attorney	47 "Padda your own —"	13 — majesta
1 Bridge bld	30 Household animal	48 Complaints	21 Obliterate
5 George or Irwin	31 Used	49 Fullness	23 — the lily
9 Imperial	32 Haad of	50 Musical study	25 Craft
14 Pay up	33 Unpolished	51 Dimension	28 Oldtime shelters for the needy
15 Lizard	34 Suffit with	52 Encouraga	30 Inca land
16 Draw out	35 Suffix with	53 Aamestly	31 Latin abbr.
17 Operatic	36 Related to hearing	54 — ear end out the other	32 Prefix with scope or vision
18 SA monkey	40 Learning by repetition	55 Balga	33 Field
19 Bogs down	41 — double (baseball hit)	56 Cherished	34 Black bird
20 Brass	42 — double (baseball hit)	57 Lika March	35 Adorable
22 Certain global measurement	43 Lamb's dam	58 Headliner	36 "O Sole —"
24 NY city	44 Seroogian word	59 Miscalculata	37 Depravity
26 Cheats	45 Tire out	60 Down	40 Idolize
27 Carves sheet, for short		61 American patriot	42 Glove Fr.
		62 Becker of a play	43 Egg —
		63 Weather word	45 Pearl of song
		64 Bondage	47 Actor
		65 Fast plane	48 Eastwood
		66 Greet	49 Proclame
		67 Vehicles	50 More chaste
		68 Prunelike	51 Poe
		69 Prompt	52 Men of vision
		70 Corrects manuscripts	53 Buy — in a poke
		71 Hindu teacher	54 Gate card
		72 Mada e hole in one	55 Field athletes
			56 Pound the poet
			57 Continental abbr.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

BALENS	ROPIE	YORF
AKIOM	APER	LOO
SEIDGIAN	PIPPERS	
ENIGMANT	USABLE	
ELIUS	MAINY	
LIAR	PAINT	BAI
ARME	GRONDE	ONO
PAULGE	GERGIER	UNIO
TOIS	ABARIS	WELD
SES	LEST	ALES
TOTIS	MOAN	
CIANTO	QWINTIME	
UNWANTY	DIOLIO	YOR
TEISS	YIVIS	GOBIA
ESTIE	PIATE	QUISTS



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WORLD

'Impossible to guard every church' U.K. sends more troops to N. Ireland border

BELFAST (R) — The British government said Tuesday it was increasing the number of troops in the troubled border region of Northern Ireland, where gunmen shot dead three men in a raid on a Protestant chapel on Sunday.

"We have had a higher profile (in the region) in recent weeks and we shall step this up now," Northern Ireland Secretary James Prior told an interviewer on British radio.

"It is quite impossible to think that we could guard every church service and church congregation in Northern Ireland. What we can do is to pay particular attention to those ones down on the border," he said.

The shooting, in the village of Darkley near the border with the Irish Republic, has plunged the British-ruled province into a major political and security crisis.

A leading Protestant politician, the Rev. Ian Paisley, has threatened to set up a vigilante force.

Meanwhile the official Unionist Party, the biggest pro-British group, has decided to withdraw from the provincial assembly until the government tightens security.

The assembly was set up last year as the latest attempt to foster power-sharing between the Protestant loyalist majority and Catholic nationalist minority, but it has been boycotted by the nationalists.

In a statement the official Unionists said the assembly now constituted "nothing more than a formal device for ritual protest without any effective power to protect those it represents and for whom it should be responsible."

Police said they believed a breakaway Republican guerrilla group was responsible.

They said a gun involved in Sunday's attack was used in previous incidents in which the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA), which broke from the Irish Republican Army (IRA), claimed responsibility.

But the INLA's political wing, the Irish Republican Socialist Party (IRSP), has condemned the shooting.

Burma puts 2 N. Koreans on trial

RANGOON (R) — Two North Koreans accused of taking part in the Rangoon bomb blast last month that killed 21 people including four South Korean cabinet ministers, went on trial charged with murder and illegal possession of arms.

Kang Chul Min and Zin Mo appeared before a special session of the Rangoon divisional court held inside the Burmese capital's heavily guarded military headquarters.

Kang, his left arm amputated at the elbow, and Zin, were both handcuffed to plainclothes police as they were led into the court and seated facing three judges on a dais flanked by red and blue Burmese national flags.

Both men looked drawn and thin as the prosecutor, U Tin Hlaing, a superintendent of the special branch police, informed the court they each faced three charges of murder and illegal arms possession.

He said the two North Koreans were captured within three days of the blast at Rangoon's martyrs' mausoleum on Oct. 9.

Zin and Kang were told by the presiding judge, Lt. Col. Maung Maung, that defence lawyers would be provided for them at state expense.

Hawke leaves Bangkok for Delhi

BANGKOK (R) — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke left here Tuesday for New Delhi after a two-day visit aimed at patching up a rift between Australia and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) over Kampuchea.

He said his talks with Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda had helped clear up misunderstandings about Australia's role and added "we could not, I believe, more satisfied than we are."

ASEAN, grouping Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines, has been critical in the past of Australia's independent role in trying to resolve the Kampuchean problem.

Singapore in particular has accused Australia of bending over backwards to please Vietnam.

During his talks with Thai officials Mr. Hawke stressed repeatedly that Australia shared ASEAN's fundamental aim of ending Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea and ensuring self-determination for the Kampuchians.

He said differences that existed lay in emphasis and approach. Thai officials described the differences as minor and said Thailand would continue to work closely with Australia on matters of mutual interest.

Before Mr. Hawke's arrival here Thai officials said they had no intention of imposing their views on him. Privately they recognised they could not change Australia's policy on Indochina.

They were not proved wrong in their expectations.

Mr. Hawke told a press conference before his departure Australia's aim was to loosen the Soviet grip on Vietnam and bring it back into the community of nations.

He said it was not in the interest of any country for Vietnam to be dependent almost exclusively on the Soviet Union.

He said there was some evidence of a shift in the previously uncompromising stands of Vietnam and ASEAN over Kampuchea and described this as hopeful.

Commonwealth vs. N. Delhi regulations

NEW DELHI (R) — Security officials were given a few heart-stopping moments at New Delhi Airport when some African leaders arrived for the Commonwealth summit, officials said Tuesday.

Mrs. Betty Kaunda, wife of Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, caused a flurry when immigration discovered that her yellow fever inoculation certificate had lapsed six months ago.

She was whisked through with her husband, but her "infringement" of India's strict health rules was referred to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's office for consideration, they said. It was understood the matter had been dropped quietly.

A machine-gun was seized from a bodyguard accompanying President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania who arrived on Monday. A customs official promised he would get it back when he left.

Santa Klaus mails bomb to Reagan

NEW YORK (R) — Police have intercepted a suspected parcel bomb addressed to President Reagan and carrying the message: "Merry Christmas, Santa. Ho, Ho, Ho." The shoebox-shaped parcel, about 45 cms long and 25 cms high, with a Canadian postmark, was found at Kennedy Airport. Police said an X-ray check showed it appeared to contain a timer and two sticks of dynamite.

Judge doubles Flynn's daily fine

LOS ANGELES (R) — A judge has announced he would double to \$20,000 the daily fine he has imposed on Larry Flynn until the sex magazine publisher reveals the source of a key tape recording. In the recording, which Mr. Flynn played to reporters, a government informer was said to have threatened carmaker John De Lorean, accused of conspiring to import 100 kg of cocaine, if Mr. De Lorean backed out of an alleged deal. Mr. Flynn, who appeared in court Monday wearing a U.S. flag as an apron, asked U.S. federal judge Robert Takasugi: "What happens when I run out of money?" Then I have to resort to other means," Judge Takasugi replied.

2 Germans die in escape bid

HELMSTEDT, West Germany (R) — Two people were reported killed and a woman injured when East German guards opened fire on a petrol tanker trying to crash across the border to West Germany, border police said Tuesday.

The police quoted eyewitnesses saying they saw two dead bodies beside the 32-tonne tanker, stopped by East German guards Monday night after a high speed chase.

Sawmill disaster kills owner, 3 others

CHESTER, Texas (R) — A steel cable snapped at a sawmill and sliced off the heads of the owner and three employees, officials said. A fifth man was injured when the broken cable whipped across the sawmill at neck height Monday.

Barbecue blast kills 10 Japanese

KAKEGAWA, Japan (R) — A gas explosion at a barbecue killed at least 10 people and injured 26 Tuesday in this central Japanese city, the fire department said. The propane gas explosion ripped through a building in the barbecue garden of the Yamaha recreation sports club.

Illegal tombstone gets man in trouble

SINGAPORE (R) — The trial has begun of a man charged under Singapore's Internal Security Act with possession of a tombstone described in court as a subversive document. A district court heard that the inscription on the tombstone glorified the man's dead brother, a member of the Communist Malayan National Liberation Front which is outlawed here and in neighbouring Malaysia.

Peru strike may cause army action

LIMA (R) — The armed forces are ready to intervene in a strike by bus and truck owners that has paralysed most public transport in Peru, a government spokesman said.

He said the armed forces planned to provide bus services Tuesday in areas hard hit by the stoppage that began Monday.

Police and municipal authorities in major cities said the strike, declared illegal by the government, had halted most transport except in provinces bordering Ecuador to the north.

Transport owners said they had kept more than 300,000 vehicles off the road to press the government to lift import and sales taxes on vehicles and spare parts.

Sri Lanka extends state of emergency

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's nationwide state of emergency has been extended until Dec. 17 to combat guerrilla attacks and prevent a recurrence of ethnic violence in which nearly 400 people were killed.

Parliament Monday night voted 130-0 for the extension after Parliamentary Affairs Minister Vincent Perera said guerrilla violence was continuing in the northern and eastern provinces.

Jaruzelski quits defence post, gains more power

WARSAW (R) — Polish Communist Party leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski resigned Tuesday as defence minister but was appointed head of a newly-formed national defence committee that will control the armed forces.

Gen. Jaruzelski, defence minister since 1968, will remain as prime minister.

Parliamentary sources said he would be replaced at the defence ministry by his deputy, Gen. Florian Swicki, in a government reshuffle due to be announced later Tuesday.

The national defence committee (KOK), created by parliament Monday, will have wide powers including the right to declare and administer a state of emergency if necessary.

Informed sources said KOK would provide the authorities with the machinery to act more swiftly

and efficiently than in 1981, when martial law was declared because of the confrontation with the Solidarity free trade union.

Chairmanship of the committee consolidates Gen. Jaruzelski's position as the most powerful member of the leadership, the sources said. Parliament approved his appointment unanimously and Gen. Jaruzelski was applauded enthusiastically when he rose to acknowledge his election.

Although the political situation in Poland is calm, the authorities are wary of any sign of a return to the industrial chaos of the Solidarity era as they struggle to hasten the revival of the economy.

Solidarity, banned under martial law, has called for strikes in strategic industries in opposition to the government's widely resented plans to raise food prices by between 10 and 15 per cent on Jan. 1.

Liberian coup thwarted

ABIDJAN (R) — Liberian leader Samuel Doe said Monday night a plot to overthrow him involving several leading members of his ruling People's Redemption Council (PRC) had been foiled, Monrovia Radio reported Tuesday.

Speaking on the radio, monitored in Abidjan, the 31-year-old Liberian leader said 12 leading plotters, all members of the armed forces, were arrested and were being investigated.

Mr. Doe, who came to power in a bloody coup in April 1980, did not say when the plot was foiled or the arrests made.

He said he first heard of a coup attempt on Nov. 14 from an army officer he named as Capt. Johnny Herring who reported that leading officers were planning a coup.

The Liberian leader pledged the accused would be given a fair trial.

Karen rebels, ICRC talk about fate of kidnapped

BANGKOK (R) — Karen secessionist rebels holding a French couple in Burma said they were holding talks Tuesday with Red Cross officials, mediating on behalf of Paris for the release of the captives.

A Karen spokesman said the talks were being held "somewhere at the Thai-Burmese border area," but declined to give more details.

The Karens captured engineer Jacques Bossu, 26, and his wife Martine, 24, at a cement factory project on Oct. 18 and said France must end all aid to the government in Rangoon.

The rebels, who have been fighting the government since 1948 to back demands for an autonomous Karen state, earlier threatened to put the couple on trial and jail them if Paris did not agree to negotiations by Dec. 2.

A spokesman of the Karen National Union (KNU) told Reuters from the northern Thai border town of Mae Sot that the meeting was between KNU leaders and John Michel Monod, the Bangkok-based representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Mrs. Marcos does not want to be president

MANILA (R) — Imelda Marcos, influential and politically powerful wife of Philippines' President Ferdinand Marcos, has declared herself out of the running for the presidency or any other high government office.

In a letter she read to the national assembly, Mrs. Marcos also said that suggesting she had presidential ambitions was mischievous gossip and idle talk.

In a parallel declaration aimed at easing increasing concern over who might succeed Mr. Marcos, the president's ruling party said it favoured amending the constitution to restore the vice-presidency in 1987 when the next presidential elections are scheduled to be held.

It also said the speaker of the national assembly should be interim chief of state if the president died or resigned before his term of office ends in 1987.

Mrs. Marcos' surprise announcement and the statement by the ruling party, the new society movement (KBL), could ease some of the political uncertainty in the Philippines.

"Now that the economy of the country looks brighter and the future optimistic, I can, in good conscience, announce that I am resigning from the executive committee and that my public life is co-terminus with that of President Marcos," Mrs. Marcos said.

Leaders gather for Commonwealth summit

NEW DELHI (R) — Commonwealth presidents and prime ministers assembled Tuesday to discuss the arms race, Third World poverty and black Africa's rising anger over Namibia.

African frustration over the near-breakdown of Namibian independence talks threatens to boil into a major issue when the biennial summit of the 48-nation Commonwealth opens Wednesday.

The 15 African members blame the United States and other Western nations for delays in getting South Africa to relinquish control over Namibia (also known as South West Africa), the last black African territory still under foreign rule.

The seven-day summit will also discuss how the Commonwealth can help Grenada once U.S. troops leave the Caribbean island and it is expected to rally behind

the Cyprus government following the proclamation of a Turkish-Cypriot breakaway state last week.

Officials close to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said the summit would issue a unanimous call to the superpowers for new efforts towards arms control and improved East-West relations.

Summit organisers, aware that the Commonwealth has no power to enforce recommendations, have tagged the New Delhi meeting a "healing touch summit" in the hope that its united voice will have a useful influence on contentious global problems.

Commonwealth secretary-General Shridath Ramphal was seeking to head off a possible clash between the six Commonwealth Caribbean nations which supported last month's invasion of Grenada and other Caribbean states which opposed it, officials said.

U.S. military police may stay behind in Grenada

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (R) — The United States may leave military police on Grenada when the combat soldiers used in the invasion of the island return home, military officials here said.

"We are not doing anything right now that the M.P.'s (Military Police) could not do," the tactical commander for U.S. forces in Grenada, Col. Terry Scott, told Reuters.

"I can see leaving some sort of residual force put together probably under international command," Col. Scott added.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said last week that all U.S. combat troops would be withdrawn by Dec. 23.

U.S. officials here said that some soldiers would remain but that they would be from engineer, medical and support units.

Military officials maintain that there are still a dozen "hard core" Cuban and Grenadian resistance fighters hiding in the countryside and Grenadian officials complain that the present police force cannot maintain law and order.

While it has not been determined which troops will remain in Grenada and who will maintain security functions here, M.P.s are in a category which could remain on the island," U.S. spokesman James Dandridge said.

Officials said about 300 U.S. M.P.s were on Grenada but could not say whether the number would be increased. They added it would be up to Grenada's caretaker government to decide what type of security force it wants.

Sources close to the government said it wanted all forces to leave as soon as possible.

But one U.S. embassy official said: "We will be here for years."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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THE SECRET IS TO PLAN AHEAD!

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ AK 10 9 7 3
♥ 10 6 5
♦ AK 10
♣ 3

WEST ♠ J 6 5 2
♥ 9
♦ J 9 8 7
♣ A 9 6 4

EAST ♠ 4
♥ J 7 4 2
♦ 6 4 3
♣ Q J 10 8 7

SOUTH ♠ Q 5
♥ AK Q 8 3
♦ Q 5 2
♣ K 5 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♥ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
4 ♥ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♥ Pass 6 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠.

Here's a chance to match your technique against Toronto's Sammy Kehela, one of the world's master technicians. Just cover the East-West hands with your thumbs and plan the play at six no trump after a diamond lead.

Note that Kehela carefully avoided playing in a suit contract. At a suit slam he might have been at the mercy of a break in his trump suit. At six no trump he might get home if either major suit behaved kindly. Note that six

spades requires an inspired guess in the trump suit, and that six hearts might fail if the defenders' hands were reversed.

Kehela won the diamond lead in dummy and cashed the king ace of hearts. When West showed up on the second heart, declarer unblocked dummy's ten. He crossed to the table with the high diamond and took the marked heart finesse. After cashing the queen of diamonds, he ran the heart suit.

A careless declarer might have discarded dummy's club in the hope of making an overtrick, but not Kehela. Since he needed only four spade tricks to make his slam, he discarded two of dummy's spades. West, meanwhile, was forced to come down to four spades and the ace of clubs.

Declarer cashed the queen of spades and queen of diamonds and, had he been gifted with second sight, he would have continued by finessing dummy's ten of spades. However, he made the normal play of a spade to the king, but when East showed out declarer still had another string to his bow. He led a club to his king and West's ace. On West's forced spade return declarer took the marked finesse in dummy, and the slam was home.

20 years after Kennedy assassination, questions still abound

By David Nagy
Reuters

WASHINGTON — After 20 years of work by federal agents, official inquiries and zealous amateurs, questions about President Kennedy's assassination still haunt the United States.

An official inquiry decided an obscure drifter named Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone assassin, but doubters ranging from Congressmen to freelance detectives and writers still insist there must have been a conspiracy behind the murder of the 35th U.S. president in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

Conspiracy theories advanced over the years, many of them contradictory and based more on suspicion, assumption and deduction than hard facts, have included:

That Oswald, 24, a Marxist who had lived in the Soviet Union and was himself killed before he could stand trial, was backed by the Soviet KGB — or was a double agent for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Others say he was a pawn of the U.S. military or powerful right-wing oil-men or the mafia.

Some insist he was a pro-Castro fanatic seeking revenge for CIA plots to murder the Cuban leader in the early 1960s or conversely that Oswald had changed into a Castro-hater who thought Kennedy had gone soft on Cuba.

In some of these theories, Oswald was the lone gunman. Others say he was one of several, or was not involved at all.

A presidential commission headed by then-Chief Justice Earl Warren of the Supreme Court thought it had ended the speculation in 1964 when it ruled that Oswald, acting alone, shot Mr. Kennedy with a rifle as he rode in an open car through Dallas.



A documentary recreates the moment after the U.S. president was hit in Dallas

htclub owner Jack Ruby, who was described as a Kennedy admirer. Backed by 40,000 pages of Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) files, the inquiry added that: "The commission has found no evidence that either Oswald or Ruby was part of any conspiracy, domestic or foreign."

Surviving members of the commission, including former-President Gerald Ford, still stand by that finding.

Skeptical Americans

Yet polls over the years have found that those suspecting some type of plot have ranged from a majority of Americans to more than 80 per cent of those surveyed.

In 1979, a special congressional

committee concluded its own two-year inquiry saying: "The committee believes that President Kennedy was probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy."

"The committee is unable to identify the other gunman or the extent of the conspiracy."

This finding was based on analyses of a tape recording made at the time of the shooting which indicated shots from a second gun. This was rejected in turn by National Academy of Sciences experts, who said their studies did not support the theory.

Beyond the official investigations is a sub-culture of "conspiracy buffs", driven by the conviction that the Warren report was a hasty, slipshod work, full of

holes and may be even part of the conspirators' cover-up.

Some of these people have virtually dedicated their lives to cracking the Kennedy case, undaunted by time, the death of witnesses, cold trails, contradictory theories and ridicule.

Connoisseurs of the conspiracy claims say the favourite now is the "mob-hit theory", that the mafia killed Mr. Kennedy in retaliation for the crime-busting crusade of his brother, Attorney-General Robert Kennedy.

Then there are the professional authors, still producing volumes of conspiracy literature. One book, claiming the assassin was not really Oswald but a double planted by the Soviets led to the exhumation of his body in 1981.

A medical examiner said the

teeth proved it was Oswald. Oswald himself protested his innocence during his two days in custody before Ruby killed him as he was being transferred to another jail.

Ruby, a 52-year-old Dallas nightclub owner with some shady connections, died of cancer in prison in 1967. He insisted he was not part of a conspiracy and was awaiting retrial after his original conviction was thrown out on a technicality.

Unanswered questions

The Warren report also left many questions unanswered. It concluded essentially that Oswald, aiming from the sixth-floor window of a schoolbook warehouse where he worked, fired three shots at Kennedy from behind. It said two bullets hit Kennedy, who was in the back of an open car, and one of those two also wounded Texas Governor John Connally in front.

Investigators question why a third bullet was never found and how one slug could hit two people and emerge smooth and undisturbed.

Most troubling, a film taken by an eyewitness shows Mr. Kennedy pitching backwards as he is hit, suggesting the shot came from ahead and not behind.

Medical experts have explained that as a kind of convulsive movement, but doubters are not satisfied and there are many other points of disputed evidence.

The final puzzle is Oswald himself. The FBI never found any evidence that he hated Mr. Kennedy and meant to kill him. Dealing with motive, the Warren report concluded: "No one will ever know what passed through Oswald's mind during the week before Nov. 22, 1963."